



**Sovereign Grace
Reformed**
Presbyterian Church (OPC)

Family Worship Guide

Sunday, September 13, 2020

Opening Scripture: Psalm 135:1–3

- ¹ Praise the LORD!
Praise the name of the LORD,
give praise, O servants of the LORD,
² who stand in the house of the LORD,
in the courts of the house of our God!
³ Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;
sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Praise: Shout! For the Blessed Jesus Reigns – TPH #411

Reading of the Law of God: Exodus 20:4–6

⁴ You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

Confession of Sin: Psalm 115

- ¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!
² **Why should the nations say,
“Where is their God?”**
³ Our God is in the heavens;
he does all that he pleases.
⁴ **Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.**
⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak;
eyes, but do not see.
⁶ **They have ears, but do not hear;
noses, but do not smell.**
⁷ They have hands, but do not feel;
feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound in their throat.

8 **Those who make them become like them;
so do all who trust in them.**

9 O Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

10 **O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.**

11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.

12 **The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us;
he will bless the house of Israel;
he will bless the house of Aaron;**

13 he will bless those who fear the LORD,
both the small and the great.

14 **May the LORD give you increase,
you and your children!**

15 May you be blessed by the LORD,
who made heaven and earth!

16 **The heavens are the LORD's heavens,
but the earth he has given to the children of man.**

17 The dead do not praise the LORD,
nor do any who go down into silence.

18 **But we will bless the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore.
Praise the LORD!**

Assurance of Grace and Pardon: Hebrews 1:3

³ [The Son] is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Doxology: TPH #570

Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him, above, ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Supplication: Using the prayer sheet, pray and adore the Lord for his majesty and mercy. Remember your fellow believers in prayer.

First Reading of God's Word: Exodus 32:1–35

¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, “Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.” ² So Aaron said to them, “Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” ³ So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ And he

received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"⁵ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD."⁶ And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

⁷ And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. ⁸ They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"⁹ And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" ¹⁴ And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

¹⁵ Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets that were written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. ¹⁶ The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. ¹⁷ When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." ¹⁸ But he said, "It is not the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear." ¹⁹ And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. ²⁰ He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.

²¹ And Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?" ²² And Aaron said, "Let not the anger of my LORD burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. ²³ For they said to me, 'Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' ²⁴ So I said to them, 'Let any who have gold take it off.' So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf."

²⁵ And when Moses saw that the people had broken loose (for Aaron had let them break loose, to the derision of their enemies),²⁶ then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, "Who is on the LORD's side? Come to me." And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. ²⁷ And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Put your sword on your side each of you, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill his brother and his companion and his neighbor.'" ²⁸ And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And that day about three thousand men of the people fell. ²⁹ And Moses said, "Today you have been ordained for the service of the LORD, each one at the cost of his son and of his brother, so that he might bestow a blessing upon you this day."

³⁰ The next day Moses said to the people, "You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin." ³¹ So Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. ³² But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if

not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.”³³ But the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book.³⁴ But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them.”

³⁵ Then the LORD sent a plague on the people, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.

Psalm of Preparation: The LORD’s My Light – TPH #27A:1–3

Second Reading of God’s Word: 1 John 5:21

¹³ Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

Preaching of God’s Word: “Keeping Yourself from Idols” – Pastor Jeffrey Carter

Point: We live in a world full of tempting idols and our hearts are constantly drawn towards them. This is why we must guard ourselves from their allure with a zeal for the truth and an undying hope in the gospel of Christ.

Outline:

1. The Source of Idolatry
 - a. The image of God
 - b. The fallen human heart
2. The Nature of Idolatry
 - a. Idols of wood and stone
 - b. Idols of material glory
 - c. Idols of the heart
3. The Folly of Idolatry
 - a. It’s a lot of wasted effort
 - b. It’s ultimately irrational
4. The Sadness of Idolatry
 - a. A sad exchange
 - b. A sad disappointment
 - c. A sad transformation
5. The Threat of Idolatry
 - a. Facing idolatry with humility and confession
 - b. Fighting idolatry with zeal for the truth and the hope of the gospel

Hymn of Response: Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground – TPH #447:1–3

Closing Scripture: Jude 24–25

²⁴ Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,²⁵ to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.