

Just in Case Virtual Worship is Not Possible for You

While church leaders everywhere are trying to keep God's family linked together through virtual worship, there are some situations in which worshipping in this way is not possible. Families live in areas where there is weak or intermittent internet signals. Some people do not have the appropriate electronics and for families with multiple children under the age of 5 years sitting in front of a screen may be difficult. Here are some ideas for leading your own worship whether home alone or with your young family.

Plan Early: Start your planning on Monday for the following Sunday. This gives individuals time to write a prayer, create artwork for the worship area, practice reading the scripture, and think about the scripture. (Families with school age children also can integrate school standards into these activities as they are home schooling during this time.)

Follow a simple order of worship: Call to Worship, Hymn of Praise, Prayer of Confession, Words or Song of Forgiveness, Special Music, Scripture Reading, Thinking About the Scripture, Prayer and the Lord's Prayer, Offering Response, Hymn, Benediction

Create a Worship Space: Children might like lining up chairs, sitting around a table or sitting in a circle on the floor. Within the space make a focal point. This might be a candle which you will light reminding of God's presence, a cross or a Bible and some flowers.

Divide up the Worship Leadership Roles: Who will be greeter, lay reader, music leader, or prayer leader? Define these ahead of time so individuals can prepare.

Choose Music: Start with familiar hymns and children's songs. If there are beginning instrumentalists engage them in offering music.

Offering Response: This could be a traditional pass the basket offering which will then be given to the church or it could be an artistic response to the scripture (playdoh, paints, crayons and paper) or it could be another activity like going through the pantry and gathering items to be given to the food pantry, going through toys to be given to those in need, or making cards for the homebound.

This is one more way worship can take place during this time of COVID-19.

*Whether alone or together, at home or in sanctuary,
"Come let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker." (Psalm 95:6, NIV)*

For week to week family worship ideas and scriptures, hear from Carolyn Brown by going to https://www.facebook.com/pg/worshipingwithchildren/posts/?ref=page_internal
<https://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2020/03/worshiping-at-home-on-march-22-2020.html>
<https://worshipingwithchildren.blogspot.com/2020/03/worshiping-at-home-on-march-29-2020.html>

Hope All Are Still Well. Blessings,
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