

**Worship Notes for May 3, 2020**  
**Orrville Trinity UMC**

Greetings in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Since we're unable to gather in-person this weekend, here are some resources to make it easier for you to worship at home with your family or a small group of people. Please be sure to take all the special distancing precautions! Blessings in our RISEN Christ! Pastor David

**Opening Prayer**

Lord God, words are not enough to express Your awesomeness, Your majesty, Your holiness. Our highest expressions of theology are but baby talk next to You: Your creation, Your very self. Make us aware, through Your Holy Spirit, that You are here among us. May this awareness lead us to approach this hour more carefully. The words we speak, the tunes we sing, the thoughts we think, the joy and sadness we feel, may these be pleasing to You. For in spite of the inadequacy of our words, this worship is addressed to You. Make it complete, whole, full to overflowing, O God, our rock, and our redeemer. In Christ we pray. Amen.

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE PASSAGES**

**Psalm 8 (Common English Bible, CEB)**

*LORD, our Lord, how majestic*

*is your name throughout the earth!*

*You made your glory higher than heaven!*

<sup>2</sup> *From the mouths of nursing babies*

*you have laid a strong foundation*

*because of your foes,*

*in order to stop vengeful enemies.*

<sup>3</sup> *When I look up at your skies,*

*at what your fingers made—*

*the moon and the stars*

*that you set firmly in place—*

<sup>4</sup> *what are human beings*

*that you think about them;*

*what are human beings*

*that you pay attention to them?*

<sup>5</sup> *You've made them only slightly less than divine,*

*crowning them with glory and grandeur.*

<sup>6</sup> *You've let them rule over your handiwork,*

*putting everything under their feet—*

<sup>7</sup> *all sheep and all cattle,*

*the wild animals too,*

<sup>8</sup> *the birds in the sky,*

*the fish of the ocean,*

*everything that travels the pathways of the sea.*

<sup>9</sup> *LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!*

**Psalm 19 (Common English Bible, CEB)**

*Heaven is declaring God's glory;*

*the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.*

<sup>2</sup> *One day gushes the news to the next,*

*and one night informs another what needs to be known.*

<sup>3</sup> *Of course, there's no speech, no words—*

*their voices can't be heard—*

<sup>4</sup> *but their sound extends throughout the world;*

*their words reach the ends of the earth.*

*God has made a tent in heaven for the sun.*

<sup>5</sup> *The sun is like a groom*

*coming out of his honeymoon suite;*

*like a warrior, it thrills at running its course.*

<sup>6</sup> *It rises in one end of the sky;*

*its circuit is complete at the other.*

*Nothing escapes its heat.*

<sup>7</sup> *The LORD's Instruction is perfect,*

*reviving one's very being.*

*The LORD's laws are faithful,*

*making naive people wise.*

<sup>8</sup> *The LORD's regulations are right,*

*gladdening the heart.*

*The LORD's commands are pure,*

*giving light to the eyes.*

<sup>9</sup> *Honoring the LORD is correct,*

*lasting forever.*

*The LORD's judgments are true.*

*All of these are righteous!*

<sup>10</sup> *They are more desirable than gold—*

*than tons of pure gold!*

*They are sweeter than honey—*

*even dripping off the honeycomb!*

<sup>11</sup> *No doubt about it:*

*your servant is enlightened by them;*

*there is great reward in keeping them.*

<sup>12</sup> *But can anyone know*

*what they've accidentally done wrong?*

*Clear me of any unknown sin*

<sup>13</sup> *and save your servant from willful sins.*

*Don't let them rule me.*

*Then I'll be completely blameless;*

*I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.*

<sup>14</sup> *Let the words of my mouth*

*and the meditations of my heart*

*be pleasing to you,*

*LORD, my rock and my redeemer.*

## **PRAYER**

Wonderful Creator God, the whole earth declares your greatness. Your glory glows in the heavens and is seen in the moon and the stars which you have set in place.

What are we that you care for us? Yet you have made us only a little lower than yourself and crowned us with glory and honor. You have given us responsibility to care for the sheep and cattle, for wild things, for all creatures that swim and fly.

Forgive us for destroying rather than restoring and for polluting rather than nurturing. Help us to declare your glory and the glory of your world. **Amen.**

## **QUESTIONS TO PONDER (Notes adapted from Brian D. Russell's "The Psalms – Book 1")**

### **Psalm 8**

- Psalm 8:1-2 – Praise reminds God's people of the greatness and majesty of the Lord.
- Psalm 8:3-9 – God created humanity as the climax of creation; Jesus models this way of life for us.
  - How does Psalm 8 describe the greatness of God? Be specific.
  - What does Psalm 8 remind us about the role of humanity in God's creation?

### **Psalm 19**

- Psalm 19:1-6 – Creation points to the Creator.
  - How does nature proclaim God's glory? What are the limitations of nature's revelation?
- Psalm 19:7-10 – Scripture reveals the truth of creation and our need for God.
  - What does Scripture teach us about God that nature cannot?
- Psalm 19:11-14 – By opening ourselves up to God's cleansing work, we join with creation in praising God with our words.
  - What is the connection between our own personal transformation and the mission we're part of?