

October 2024 Worship Guide

CHERRYVALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 709 CHERRY HILL DR, STAUNTON VA - 540 885 0098

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of October 2024.

As of the time of going to print, Sunday worship is in person, online and broadcast on the radio (you can listen in your car on FM 87.9, in the church parking lot). If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch online on our website and YouTube channel. Even if we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, and claim the promises for you and your family. - Pastor Jonathan

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Jeremiah 3:15 “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart,
which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding. “

Pastor Appreciation Month is celebrated in October, The month is a time to recognize the work of pastors, missionaries, and religious workers, and to show appreciation for their contributions. Being a Pastor does come at a cost, not to the church or congregation, but to the person called to the role of pastor.

THE PRICE OF BEING A PASTOR

Being a Pastor is listed among the four most difficult professions in the United States because, a Pastor must be: •Preacher, •Example, •Father, •Husband, •Counselor, •Conference caller, •Planner, •Minister, •Visionary, •Director, •Mentor, •Friend, •Reconciliator, •Marriage counselor, •Youth Counselor, •Leader's trainer, •Bible teacher, •Intercessor etc. etc. Besides sometimes being: •Keeper of the Church, •Cleaning staff, •Lightbulb changer, •Toilet unblocker, •Carpet shampoo-er & •AV Tech support.

Every Pastor constantly confronts reviews like: The Pastor doesn't visit me: Sermons don't fill me up: The Services are too long: Temp is either too cold or too hot: Pastor's children are not an example according to others.

One of the most difficult things in the life of a Pastor is, to know that at some point the people they love will abandon or even betray them. The Pastor is often the loneliest person in the congregation. You may see a Pastor be surrounded by people, but very rarely people who are interested in their problems, needs or even in their lives. And let's not mention the demands that congregations place on the Pastors' wife and children.

According to recent studies... 4,000-5,000 pastors quit each year. They don't quit because they have a lack of faith in God. They don't quit because they don't believe in the calling God has placed on their life. Most don't even quit because of financial reasons. Pastors quit because they are overwhelmed with mental exhaustion.

Until you're a pastor you'll never fully understand what it's like to carry spiritual burdens for people. Getting up in the middle of night, praying for your family of faith. Awakened in the middle of night with someone on your heart. Overwhelmed with concern by a person's absence or distance. Your mind continually occupied with the presentation of the upcoming Sunday message - how to preach it, what to teach on, how do we apply it? Getting critiqued on a continual basis. Being told you need to do better or that some areas of the church simply need to be better.

Continued overleaf

October is Pastor Appreciation Month - Continued from front cover

Pastors invest their whole life into people and yet people will turn their backs on their pastor at the first sign of a storm, usually without a conversation. Pastors stand in the middle of disputes. Pastors stand in the middle of gossip. Pastors council broken marriages. Pastors comfort those who have suffered loss. Pastors navigate the waters of imperfect people with a desire to see each one thrive in their faith. They long for spiritual breakthroughs. Your pastor craves the very best for you. All of this, while trying to battle their own flesh and grow in their own relationship with God.

Pastors see the posts. Pastors hear the whispers. Pastors endure the negativity. Pastors are continually caring for the sheep while fending off the wolves. Pastors pour out and pour out - rarely being poured into. What keeps a pastor going?....YOU. :

You - the person who is genuinely hungry.

You - the person who worships with passion and freedom.

You - the teenager who is striving to be a follower of Jesus.

You - the single mom who understands the beauty of the hope found in Christ.

You - the one who walks through the door for the first time because you're in search of peace, hope, and community.

During Pastor appreciation month lets try to make a habit of the following : Pray for your pastor and their family. Serve with your pastor. Talk with your pastor. Encourage your pastor. They are human. They need you more than you think! Connect with the vision that God gave them. Support them, but above all love them. Remember they are human and in the same way they go through the same needs as you.

Even if you don't believe it, many Pastors and their Families have sacrificed comforts, rest, personal plans and so many things including some of their own family's needs to attend God's call. And still he values this call as the greatest job and wouldn't trade it for anything! You don't know how much your pastor would appreciate knowing you value the time he puts into ministry, the prayers he makes for everyone, the burden he voluntarily carries for the his church.

Prayer Suggestions for our Pastor Jonathan

Pray Blessings and Gratitude over our Pastor

Numbers 6:24-26—"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."

Dear Lord, Thank you for sending our pastor to shepherd the church. I'm grateful for the love you put in Jonathan's heart for You and Your people. I appreciate the unique set of gifts and talents that enrich his ministry and bless our church. Would You, in turn, bless Jonathan today? Help him to sense Your presence in such a sweet way. Fill Jonathan up, Lord and use Jonathan for Your glory today. And show me how I can support and encourage. Thanking You for this good leader, I pray this in Jesus' name.

Pray for the Courage and Strength of our Pastor

Joshua 1:9—"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Dear Lord, My pastor's on the front line; an easy target for the enemy and his minions. My pastor's preaching the Word faithfully from the platform each week as a community leader, and a completely sold out servant to You. Dear Holy Spirit, empower Jonathan this day to boldly proclaim the truth of Your Word. Help Jonathan not to grow weary in well-doing or to fall away but provide grace upon grace. I'm thanking You in advance for what You will do in and through our pastor this very day, in Jesus' name.

Prayer Suggestions for our Pastor Jonathan

Pray that our Pastor Clearly Sees God's Direction

Proverbs 3:5-6—“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”

Dear Father, Thank you for a pastor that seeks You with a whole heart. Jonathan's singular desire, Lord, is to serve and please You. So, Father, show Jonathan the way. Give Jonathan Your vision. Grant Your clarity. Make the complex simple. And then give Jonathan boldness to step out in faith to accomplish Your plans for our ministry and for our church. It's easy to be distracted by many voices, so Father let Jonathan hear but one voice, and let that voice be Yours. These things I pray with hope and expectation, in Jesus' name.

Pray for Your Pastor to Be Renewed with Energy

Galatians 6:9—“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”

Dear Lord, Even though my pastor serves our church with what seems like boundless energy, no one is a superhuman; I know Jonathan gets really weary. The demands on the body and spirit are nearly unending. Would You let my pastor find respite and relaxation from the day? Would You clear the mind, give a good sleep tonight, and refreshment for another day of kingdom service? Bless my pastor, oh Lord, for faithfulness and offer blessings with a new day to continue in faithfully service to You.

Pray for our Pastor's Focus to Increase

Matthew 6:33—“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Dear God, There will be hundreds of distractions in my pastor's life today—fires to put out, unexpected twists and turns, and the noise and clutter of the world. I know that the deceiver will do anything he can to keep my pastor from study, prayer, and service. So, I lift my pastor up to You, dear Lord, asking You to help keep the main thing the main thing. Give “blinders” so that my pastor is keenly focused on You and on Your purpose for life and ministry this day. In Jesus' name.

Pray for the Blessing of Wisdom to Increase

James 1:5-6—“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.”

Dear Lord, I come to you today interceding for my pastor. I know there will be many important decisions that must be made, many words that must be chosen carefully, many needs that must be answered. It's a day that Jonathan can't handle with only human abilities. Jonathan needs Your wisdom and Your guidance. Only You know what today will bring, and only You know what the demands will be. Meet them, oh Lord, and give Jonathan just what is needed, just when it's needed. I'm thanking you, in Jesus' name.

Pray that Love Will Surround and Encourage our Pastor

John 13: 34-35—“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Dear Holy Spirit, Today I pray for the fruits of the spirit in my pastor's life—that love, joy, peace, and patience will guide; that kindness and goodness will be companions; that faithfulness will be the motto, and that gentleness and self-control will be evident to all. Help Jonathan to see each person today through Your eyes. And help them to see You in Jonathan. I love you, Lord, and I thank you for my pastor, in Jesus' name.

October Worship

Oct 6 2024

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Ps 26 or Ps 25; Heb 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16

Call to Worship

O Lord, our Lord, when we look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you set in place, what are mere mortals that you should think about us, human beings that you should care for us? O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, God has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. O Lord, our Lord, your majestic name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. Jesus is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. We hail the power of Jesus' name, as He is crowned Lord of all.

Prayer of Confession

God, you give us glimpses of your light, but sometimes, instead of following you, we stumble around on our own. We accept poor imitations of your light. We have ignored your many gifts. We have forgotten that all good gifts come from you and we have forgotten to give thanks in all things. You speak the words that give and sustain life, but we listen to the noise around us instead. Forgive us. Give us eyes to see you in all things and ears to listen to you at all times.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Your abundance of blessings leaves us disoriented when trials come our way. Fulfilled needs make challenges perplexing. We give our gifts in gratitude, seeking to appreciate blessings and to learn from both bright mountains and dark valleys with clear vision of Jesus. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who gave himself for us. Amen.

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**Oct 13, 2024**

**Scriptures to read and meditate on**

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Ps 22:1-15; Heb 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

## **Call to Worship**

The kingdom of God is at hand. We want to enter this kingdom. The mercy of God is made known. We want to receive this mercy. The grace of God is abundant for all. Help us to let go of the goods, kindred, and mortal life of this world, so that we may enter into your eternal kingdom. For you alone are our mighty fortress, our defense that never fails.

## **Prayer of Confession**

Lord, we look for you in the wrong places. We put our trust in material things. We confess we are often stingy in our gifts of time, of talents, of treasures. Forgive our materialistic approach to life and for all the times we have doubted you. Break the bonds and chains of our oppression and dependence on greed and power. Give us power to name those things that keep us from fully loving you, so that we can enter your Kingdom in this life and the life to come. Open our hearts to know that the riches of the kingdom are in service to you, and that our lives are Your vessels in building up Your Kingdom.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Gracious God, you are our provider and sustainer. We bring our gifts today, mindful of your abundant love and mercy. As we offer these tithes and offerings, we ask that you remind us of the call to let go of our earthly attachments and follow you wholeheartedly. Bless these gifts and use them to further your kingdom on earth, so that all may experience your grace and love. May our giving reflect our trust in you and our commitment to serve others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

# October Worship

**Oct 20, 2024**

**Scriptures to read and meditate on**

Job 38:1-7 (34-41); Ps 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Heb 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

## **Call to Worship**

O Lord my God, how great you are! You are robed with honor and majesty. You are dressed in a robe of light. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! You stretch out the starry curtain of the heavens; you lay out the rafters of your home in the rain clouds. You make the clouds your chariot; you ride upon the wings of the wind. The winds are your messengers; flames of fire are your servants. Praise to the Lord, who over all things wonderfully reigns! You placed the world on its foundation so it would never be moved. You clothed the earth with floods of water, water that covered even the mountains. At your command, the water fled; at the sound of your thunder, it hurried away. Praise to the Lord, who prospers our work and defends us! O Lord, what a variety of things you have made! In wisdom you have made them all! The earth is full of your creatures. All that has life and breath come now with praises before the Lord God!

## **Prayer of Confession**

Awesome God, we often fail to be still and know that you are God. We question your worthiness, rather than humbly worship your greatness. We allow other things to come first besides our worship of you and so we fail to truly see you. Forgive us for Silence us as we trust in your unfailing love. May we see your magnitude in all things.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

God of great blessing, we give you thanks for all of creation. We join our praise with everything in heaven and on earth to rejoice in your magnitude. Help us to truly see you in our life. Remind us again who gives life and who receives it. The gifts we that bring this morning are not a down payment toward future favor, but a token of a debt we will never be able to repay. May these gifts be blessed for your glory, not ours. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

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Oct 27, 2024

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Ps 34:1-8 (19-22); Heb 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Call to Worship

O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all. The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned. How amazing is your grace, O Lord. As we worship you, open our eyes to see how wonderful you are.

Prayer of Confession

Grace filled God, often we run from your presence knowing we have sinned and distorted your image in us. Instead of turning to you, we hide and make excuses for what we do while breaking relationship with you, with one another, and with all creation. Forgive us and open our eyes to your abundant mercy and grace, through Christ our Lord and Savior. Draw us deeper now, merciful Lord, into your amazing and extravagant grace.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Merciful God, we give you thanks that you open our eyes to your truth, and so we bring our gifts to you with gratitude. As we reflect on the story of Bartimaeus and Job, we bring our offerings as a response to your call, a step in faith to follow you more closely. Use these gifts to spread your love and light, helping others to see your grace and mercy. Bless our giving and open our hearts to see the needs around us so that we may serve with compassion and humility. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hebrews 7: 1-10 Word Search

Just for fun, or use as a teaching aide with your younger family members.

F O R E V E R F L W L T P B P W Q M A K Z K H B N M F D R C
P F O E Q U K O O A N X T T Q L O V P R K T T I S O L V C O
W C B A C B T J I E T V G P B O P Q P L E M N S T T P H Y L
M U S U O Y X B M S M R S C K V A P O J O F E E H H X Y Z L
P R X Y D C N D L A H V O M F K E V R K E N I M D E C A A E
R F S Y C M N R G E D H A M F A F J T R S M W L B R R K S C
Y K S M A A E N Z V S Y D Z D V Z H I U F A A C F O T F T T
N N B S M C I Y X E G S B F W S G O O E I V F O U O T Z W E
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D E G N I H T Y R E V E L I T S E I R P M E L A S N V E H H
R Z N O W H V R J Z J E R O A C Y F Q Z U C A S M A N T K E
A E G C N D A F G J S F J B G E Q F Z Z K C Q O M E M N U S
N T N D W Y O Y B S O J H K O Z J O F T S A J X A G A R S Y
U U I X F M F L E G Q X S B A A S Y T R W H P L G M S C Y O
P P L Q N T R D N Q A P N D Q J W L M X H K O G O J C W W H
A S B C V E W I H J O W R Q P H U T G O H G S E S I M O R P
T I M D F W K J O I G R M G F U M S R H Y G N I N N I G E B
R D E B O A H E L X T U R E S E A E T V G A Q O F U Z L G D
I D S A B G T S Y D A C F N L C H I E O F R U U D B P M O E
A N E Y I K H H O D P F I C R H A R C S F Q E C P O N S S I
R O R G V J M G E K Q O H U B Y R P Y I D K T A E N F B N F
C Y V Q Z Q F I I R L I P R T M B S R Q R T F K T M Y I A I
H E B A W O E L F H Z Z J G Z K A D E F E A T I N G A U E T
G B Y L N R Z K Q E T I F Z S T N A D N E C S E D F M N M S
E H E O M E N I D W T S V Y J V X K T K I N G O F P E A C E
F I S S P C M E E D K F O E H O B H A N C E S T O R P L W T
N S J H T H K B S C M P J M L Q W U V D W A X D F Q U R S M

Find the **40** Words from the hymn, Hebrews 7: 1-10

This “**Melchizedek**, king of **Salem**, **priest** of the **Most High God**, met **Abraham** as he was **returning** from **defeating** the kings and **blessed** him,” and to him Abraham **apportioned** “one-**tenth** of **everything**.”

His **name**, in the first place, **means** “**king of righteousness**”; next, he is also king of Salem, that is, “**king of peace**.” Without **father**, without **mother**, without **genealogy**, having neither **beginning** of days nor **end of life** but **resembling** the **Son of God**, he remains a priest **forever**. See how **great** he is! Even Abraham the **patriarch** gave him a tenth of the **spoils**. And those **descendants** of **Levi** who receive the **priestly office** have a **commandment** in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their **kindred**, though these also are descended from Abraham. But this man, who does not belong to their ancestry, **collected tithes** from Abraham and blessed him who had **received** the **promises**. It is **beyond dispute** that the **inferior is blessed** by the **superior**. In the one case, tithes are received by those who are **mortal**; in the other, by one of whom it is **testified** that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the **loins** of his **ancestor** when Melchizedek met him.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY	2nd	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
FRIDAY	4th	Game Night - 5:30 - 8pm. Bring board games and snacks to share.
WEDNESDAY	9th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
SUNDAY	13th	Kids & Youth Club - after service
WEDNESDAY	16th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
SUNDAY	20th	Leadership meeting - after service
WEDNESDAY	23rd	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
FRIDAY	25th	Movie Night - 6-8pm
SUNDAY	27th	Pastor Appreciation Lunch - after service
WEDNESDAY	30th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
THURSDAY	31st	Trunk or Treat - 5 - 7pm

NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY	6th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
FRIDAY	8th	Game Night - 5:30 - 8pm. Bring board games and snacks to share.
SUNDAY	10th	Kids & Youth Club - after service
WEDNESDAY	13th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
SUNDAY	17th	Chilli / Soup cook off, after service
WEDNESDAY	20th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
FRIDAY	22nd	Set up day for Cherry Berry Christmas Shop
SATURDAY	23rd	Cherry Berry Christmas Shop and Craft Fair + Bob's BBQ. 9-2pm
WEDNESDAY	27th	Weekly Lectio Divina & Prayer - noon to 1pm
THURSDAY	28th	Thanksgiving - Church office closed.

DATES AND EVENTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE REFER TO THE ANNOUNCEMENTS BEFORE SERVICE AND THOSE PRINTED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETINS.