

“TAKE 10 - Worship While Away” (Sunday, March 22, 2026)

**Share:**

The Lord invites us into his presence.

**We joyfully come into the Lord's presence.**

The Lord invites us to be joyful in being with him.

**We will be joyful in the presence of the Lord.**

The Lord offers us joy as we follow him.

**We will gladly follow the Lord.**

Come, let us worship the Lord.

**With glad and joyful hearts, we will worship our Lord.**

**Read these words from a hymn:**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

**Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;  
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.  
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.**

**Read this scripture from worship:**

Philippians 4:4-9, *The Message*

<sup>4-5</sup> Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, *revel* in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute!

<sup>6-7</sup> Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.

<sup>8-9</sup> Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies.

John 15:1-17, *The Message*

<sup>1-3</sup> “I am the Real Vine and my Father is the Farmer. He cuts off every branch of me that doesn't bear grapes. And every branch that is grape-bearing he prunes back so it will bear even more. You are already pruned back by the message I have spoken.

<sup>4</sup> “Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can’t bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can’t bear fruit unless you are joined with me.

<sup>5-8</sup> “I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can’t produce a thing. Anyone who separates from me is deadwood, gathered up and thrown on the bonfire. But if you make yourselves at home with me and my words are at home in you, you can be sure that whatever you ask will be listened to and acted upon. This is how my Father shows who he is—when you produce grapes, when you mature as my disciples.

<sup>9-10</sup> “I’ve loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you’ll remain intimately at home in my love. That’s what I’ve done—kept my Father’s commands and made myself at home in his love.

<sup>11-15</sup> “I’ve told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.

<sup>16</sup> “You didn’t choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won’t spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you.

<sup>17</sup> “But remember the root command: Love one another.

### **Talk Together:**

- ✂ What is bringing you joy these days?
- ✂ What steals your joy?
- ✂ What does the Bible say about joy?
- ✂ What is the source of your joy?
- ✂ How do we see joy as a “fruit of the Spirit” rather than just a feeling?
- ✂ Can you think of a time when you experienced joy in a difficult situation?
- ✂ How will you practice a joy-filled life this week by choosing joy?

### **Pray together:**

Holy God, we ask for the courage and will to choose joy in our lives. Help us to find happiness in simple things and to share our joy with others. Let our laughter and smiles be contagious, spreading positivity wherever we go. May we find joy even in the midst of challenges. Thank you for the moments of joy that brighten our days. Help us to cherish them and to seek out more opportunities for happiness. May we find joy in our relationships, celebrating the connections we have with family and friends. Help us to recognize the beauty and wonder in the world around us, finding joy in nature and the everyday miracles of life. Ground us in our joy in the Lord, in the relationship we have with Christ. Guide us to be sources of joy for others, bringing light and happiness into their lives. Let us approach each day with a joyful heart, grateful for the opportunities and experiences that come our way. Thank you for the gift of joy. Help us to embrace it fully and to spread it generously to those around us. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.