

"TAKE 10 - Worship While Away" (Sunday, October 4, 2026)

Share:

In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.

Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's call.

What do we find at today's table?

God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

What is not at today's table?

The selfishness and powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

Let us repent and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love. Let us come and praise our Maker, worshipping the Lord who makes us one.

Read these words from a hymn:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

***Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves
abound!***

***Christ is able to make us one, at His table, He sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves
abound!***

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out, bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again. Pass the Word around: loaves
abound!***

Read this scripture from worship:

Exodus 20:1-20, *The Message*

¹⁻² God spoke all these words: I am God, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of a life of slavery.

³ No other gods, only me. ⁴⁻⁶ No carved gods of any size, shape, or form of anything whatever, whether of things that fly or walk or swim. Don't bow down to them and don't serve them because I am God, your God, and I'm a most jealous God, punishing the children for any sins their parents pass on to them to the third, and yes, even to the fourth generation of those who hate me. But I'm unswervingly loyal to the thousands who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ No using the name of God, your God, in curses or silly banter; God won't put up with the irreverent use of his name.

⁸⁻¹¹ Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Work six days and do everything you need to do. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to God, your God. Don't do any work—not you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your servant, nor your maid, nor your animals, not even the foreign guest visiting in your town. For in six days God made Heaven, Earth, and sea, and everything in them; he rested on the seventh day. Therefore God blessed the Sabbath day; he set it apart as a holy day.

¹² Honor your father and mother so that you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you.

¹³ No murder. ¹⁴ No adultery. ¹⁵ No stealing. ¹⁶ No lies about your neighbor.

¹⁷ No lusting after your neighbor's house—or wife or servant or maid or ox or donkey. Don't set your heart on anything that is your neighbor's.

¹⁸⁻¹⁹ All the people, experiencing the thunder and lightning, the trumpet blast and the smoking mountain, were afraid—they pulled back and stood at a distance. They said to Moses, "You speak to us and we'll listen, but don't have God speak to us or we'll die."

²⁰ Moses spoke to the people: "Don't be afraid. God has come to test you and instill a deep and reverent awe within you so that you won't sin."

Philippians 3:4-14, *The Message*

We couldn't carry this off by our own efforts, and we know it—even though we can list what many might think are impressive credentials. You know my pedigree: a legitimate birth, circumcised on the eighth day; an Israelite from the elite tribe of Benjamin; a strict and devout adherent to God's law; a fiery defender of the purity of my religion, even to the point of persecuting the church; a meticulous observer of everything set down in God's law Book.

⁷⁻⁹ The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—*God's* righteousness.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ I gave up all that inferior stuff so I could know Christ personally, experience his resurrection power, be a partner in his suffering, and go all the way with him to death itself. If there was any way to get in on the resurrection from the dead, I wanted to do it.

¹²⁻¹⁴ I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.

Talk Together:

- ✂ Think about the Ten Commandments and how they have impacted and shaped you.
- ✂ How do the Ten Commandments help us focus our attention beyond ourselves?
- ✂ What is the purpose of worship in our lives?
- ✂ How does the apostle Paul lay aside his pedigree, experience, and selfishness?
- ✂ What does Paul do to press on? What will you do to press on for the upward call?
- ✂ How will "communion with the world" today impact and shape you for this new week?

Pray together:

Eternal One, your breath gives life, your hands paint the skies, your love brings freedom, and your kingdom will endure beyond all generations to the ends of the earth. Let our mouths proclaim your praise and our hearts dwell on you alone, that we might shout, Hallelujah! to our Rock and our Redeemer. **Amen.**