

# In Home Worship

Sunday, February 21, 2021-Saturday, February 27, 2021  
Pastor Jen & Pastor Michael

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[OcalaWestUMC.com](https://ocalawestumc.com)

## Call to Worship

A trumpet sounds from afar.

**Listen, God is calling.**

What does the Lord say to us?

**Now is the time. Today is the day.**

Now is the time to return to God.

**Today is the day of our salvation.**

Our sins cover us like mist upon the mountains.

**But you, Lord, have shown us Your forgiveness.**

Praise our God of grace and constant compassion!

**Thanks be to our Lord! Amen.**

## Meditative Thought

As Christ's ambassadors to the world,  
let us be reconciled with God.

## Opening Prayer

Holy God, Our hearts are laid bare before You, Lord. You see to us as no one else does. O God, we desire to worship You. We long for the days of joy and gladness we have known with You. Fold back the darkness that surrounds us. Show us Your mercy. Cover us with Your grace. We return our whole hearts to You this day, as we pray humbly together in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Old Testament—Psalm 51:1-12

Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is always before me.

Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict  
and justified when you judge.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins  
and blot out all my iniquity.

Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

## Hymn

### Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect communion, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.

Angels descending bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect submission, all is at rest.  
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.**

## Prayer Concerns & Praises

Take a moment to consider your own joys and concerns, those of your loved ones, those of our church and community... Lord, you abound in grace and mercy. Wash away our guilt, and cleanse us from our sins. You alone can change us and transform us. You alone can restore our joy. **Amen.**

### **New Testament: Luke 19:1-10**

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. **2** A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. **3** He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. **4** So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

**5** When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." **6** So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

**7** All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

**8** But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

**9** Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. **10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

## Reflection Questions (Luke 19:1-10)

1. Have you ever had a surprise dinner guest? Explain.
2. What kept Zacchaeus from being able to see Jesus?  
What, in your own life, sometimes keeps you from seeing Jesus?
3. Why do you think Jesus invited himself to Zacchaeus' house?
4. What motivated Zacchaeus to make restitution to those he had cheated?
5. "Today salvation has come to his house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham." What was Jesus saying about Zacchaeus?
6. Jesus saw the positive qualities in Zacchaeus. Who has affirmed you when you have felt like "a little guy up tree"?
7. Where did Jesus first find you? How did you get to join him?
8. What wrongs do you need to make right? How will you begin this work?
9. The crowds muttered that Jesus was going to dine with a sinner. What did they need to still learn about Jesus?
10. How might you swing open the wide—or wider the door of your heart to Jesus today?

While he resisted praying to God,  
the psalmist felt miserable.  
What happened when he prayed to God?

Unscramble the words of his prayer  
and put them in order on the lines below.



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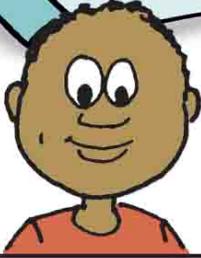
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# The Joy of Forgiveness



What does this psalm say makes a forgiven person especially blessed?



Start at the center and trace the lines to find the 3 correct answers.

whose friends  
always agree  
with them.

whose time  
is never busy.

who  
never  
do  
anything  
wrong.

Blessed  
are the  
people

whose  
sins  
are  
covered.

whose sins  
are forgiven.

whose sins  
the Lord does  
not count  
against them.