

Willow Springs Worship recorded for June 28, 2020

Prelude - In the beauty of holiness

Call to Worship

Leader: We are focused to worship together, full of the joy we feel about God's love for us.

All: He who loved us first, and called us to love and care for one another.

One: With God's help, we can overcome hatred and anger.

All: We seek God, test spirits and ask for guidance, knowing that we can love because of this grace.

One: God's love is the beginning and the end; it is the Alpha and Omega.

All: Praise God for peace, joy and hope.

One: Come, oh beloved children, rejoice and sing a new song.

Prayer: Dear Lord, Overwhelm us with your love and make us anew in your spirit.

We long to be loving people, just as you continue to love us.

Give us the wisdom of your Holy Spirit to test the spirits around us.

Touch our hearts and our hands to not only feel your love, but act out your love in service. Amen.

Songs: Come now is the time to worship SJ#9

To God be the glory HWB#102

Prayer: O Holy God, We confess to you our human weakness, our human stubbornness, to not forgive and love one another, for lashing out in anger and hatred to our brothers and sisters.

Lord God, we say that we love you, yet we ignore the suffering of others. We say that we love you, yet strike back at our brothers and sisters with vengeance.

Help us love you better by loving our neighbor. All are our neighbors.

Help us show to others the love you gave to us. Help us open our eyes to the people around us, and fill our hearts with loving compassion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Songs: Jesus thou mighty Lord HWB#115

Holy holy holy HWB#120

Children's time: In school, it seems, there are lots of tests to take. The testing is suppose to help you learn. In life we also think about lots of things and many people, companies or organizations want us to think certain things. When we hear or see something, 1 John tells us to do some testing. What does the message really mean? Sometimes people leave God and God's love out of the thinking. Here they message flunks the test - that's not good. Other times the messages bring life to circumstances and people, an point people to God and God's love. Then the idea or message passes the test?

We can test an idea we have in our head about our friends or brother or sisters or about what we are thinking about doing. When we do a test in our head if the idea helps or hurts, builds life or tears it down, we can get closer to the way of God.

Jesus came to this earth to show us how to live and keep testing how to help others and build life up!

Thanks Lord Jesus for being the foundation of our test. Live in us when we think and decide to do things. Thanks for your love and truth that teaches us so much!

Scripture: 1 John 4:1-6

Sermon: This is a Test

1. Testing

The spirits = attitudes = prevailing ideas

The Test

- A. What does this spirit say about God and Jesus, the Son?
- B. What does it say about people and how they should be relating with others?
- C. How does it suggest we should live?

2. Remembering

You are from God!

We have overcome them!

3. Knowing

...not many spirits

...but, Jesus Christ

...and holding on only to God, in Jesus Christ!

Songs: Holy is the Lord

My hope is built on nothing less HWB#343

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

The Lord walks with us these days in all the unanswered questions in our lives and around the world!

For transformation of the systems we live into toward a just society.

May your presence work: in the protestors message, in family groups, in community leaders and government leaders for transformation away from racism in us and among us.

Prayer for many impacted by the coronavirus:

- +**Health care workers, and other leaders in care centers.**
- +**Neighbors near and far.**
- +**The unemployed.**
- +**Small business owners.**
- +**Those with the virus.**
- +**Those with other illnesses.**
- +**People around the world grieving the loss of a loved one.**
- +**The poor and homeless.**
- +**All in developing countries.**
- +**Societal and cultural institutions.**
- +**National leaders all over the world.**
- +**Postal and retail workers**
- + **The moments towards a new normal.**

We offer our lives to the Lord for encounters of life in the midst of the pressure and stress of the CV19 challenges.

Offerings can be mailed to Willow Springs at PO BOX 386, Tiskilwa, 61368

Song: Take my life and let it be HWB#389

Benediction

Leader: You refine us in worship.

People: Now we continue to praise you.

Leader: You taught us how to pray.

People: Now we continue and pray to you.

Leader: You taught us to test.

People: Now we continue in Your wisdom.

Leader: You taught us how to act.

People: Now we go through life and show it to the world.

Prayer song: We lift before you all the farmers