The webinar will start at 4:00pm EDT.

Digital Worship
Matthew D. O’Rear
Karyn L. Wiseman
Stacy Williams-Duncan
John Weit
WELCOME

Matthew D. O’Rear, Wartburg Theological Seminary

DIGITAL WORSHIP
Karyn L. Wiseman, United Lutheran Seminary
John Weit, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Stacy Williams-Duncan, Learning ForTE!
Matthew D. O’Rear, Wartburg Theological Seminary
Digital Worship – Road Map

- Opening Worship
- Various Platforms for Digital Worship
- Planning Worship
- Preaching in a Digital Community
- Leading Worship
- Pastoral Care in a Digital Community
- Best Practices
- Resources
Worship

• All the materials you will need will be on the screen.
• Everyone should mute their microphone.
• Have a candle ready to light at the start of worship.
• Add your prayer request in the chat.
• A digital coffee time will follow worship.
GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
Healer of Boundless Compassion

On mute.

Healer of boundless compassion, peace for our suffering hearts: anoint us with health, embrace us with strength, and bring us to fullness of life.

Text: Life Passages, Renewing Worship 4
Music: Russell Schulz-Widmar, b. 1944
Text © 2002 and music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.
Dedication to God's love for all people.

John Weit
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

On mute. And also with you.
Let us pray together.

On mute. O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.
WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song
Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.  

On mute.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea; though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth; behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Matt O’Rear and Karyn L. Wiseman/Assembly.
Let us pray together.

On mute.

Lord God, our refuge and strength, when raging waters rise up against your holy city, watch over it and keep it safe. Make us still in your presence, and bring an end to war and violence, that all people may dwell in safety along the river that flows in the city of God; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.
MATTHEW 11:28-30
Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.
Silence for Reflection

Wartburg Theological Seminary Chapel, Dubuque, Iowa
PRAYER
God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God, it is good for us to gather as your beloved in community. We treasure your presence with us in word and meal, song and prayer. Be with us in these days when gathering together as often as we would like is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of safety, we trust that you surround us with your sheltering wings. Encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our constant companion.

Amen.
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.
SENDING
Healer of Boundless Compassion

Healer of boundless compassion, peace for our

suffering hearts: anoint us with health, embrace us with

strength, and bring us to fullness of life.

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Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

On mute.
Stay on this screen for the digital “coffee hour” in breakout rooms.

If you need to speak directly with the Pastors.
Pastor Katie – Phone Number
Pastor Martin – Phone Number
Digital Worship - Agenda

• Various Platforms for Digital Worship
• Planning Worship
• Preaching in a Digital Community
• Leading Worship
• Pastoral Care in a Digital Community
• Best Practices
• Resources
Various platforms for Digital Worship

Stacy Williams-Duncan
Before we talk tools . . .

Context and Bandwidth Matter!
Before we talk tools...
Various Platforms for Digital Worship

One Direction Interactive

ZOOM
FACEBOOK
PHONE
INSTAGRAM
MAIL
EMAIL
YOUTUBE

PHONE
ZOOM
INSTAGRAM
FACEBOOK
YOUTUBE
Planning Worship in a Digital Community

Matt O’Rear
Planning Worship in a Digital Community

• Utilize online file sharing sites
  • Google Drive, OneDrive, Dropbox, SharePoint, etc.

• Keep it simple. Keep it local.

• Set a schedule.
  • Tuesday update slides, Thursday finalize, and Saturday rehearsal, and Sunday worship.

• Engage the assembly at home.
  • Candle, bowl of water, sacred space.

• Communication

• Partnerships
Preaching in a Digital Community

Karyn L. Wiseman
The church is an enculturated entity – a product of and an element of a culture that is consumer-driven.

The church has lost its core faith tradition of standing boldly to proclaim the Gospel against and as part of the culture.

The church has lost its identity in many ways. Some of that lack of identity is seen as a loss of hope.

(Walter Brueggemann)
Preach to the times ... maybe a better after

We have preach hope to the hopeless.

We have to penetrate the levels of despair in our midst.

We have to offer symbols of amazement again.

We have to preach the Word of Light in the darkness.
Preaching to an empty room ...

• Remember that ...
  • The room is never empty.
  • The people are gathered even though it is virtually.
Preaching that connects ...

• Speak from the heart and talk directly to the people not the screen.
• Look beyond the fear but own that we feel it.
• Be centered in Jesus and the Word.
Dialogue vs. Monologue ...

- To enhance the dialogical quality of the event:
  - Build in dialogue by following the preaching with zoom conversation in small groups.
  - Break the sermon into several segments, each offered by a different preacher.
  - Break the sermon into segments, each followed by conversation/questions.
  - Do a live twitter feed during the sermon.
  - Alyce McKenzie - Preaching to an Empty Room (Link will be provided)
speak the truth, even if your voice shakes.
Timothy Wengert said it best ...

- In good times ... preach the damn Gospel.
- In bad times ... preach the damn Gospel.
- In uncertain times ... preach the damn Gospel.
- In times when you are weary ... preach the damn Gospel and share the load.
- In times of pandemic ... still preach the damn Gospel.
• Take care of yourself and your spiritual life so that you have something to give!!
• Refill your cup.
• Keep your connection to God alive!!
Leading Worship
John Weit

DIGITAL WORSHIP
Leading Worship

• What do you wear?
• Share leadership.
• Engaging the assembly.
• Being the Body of Christ.
Pastoral Care in a Digital Community

Karyn L. Wiseman
Funerals ...

• Use a two-step process:
  • Check with the family to see what their expectations are and help them process what is possible.
  • Do a small gathering in-person, if possible, with folks who have already been together to remember their loved one.
  • Do a live remembrance via technology, if a gathering of small numbers is not possible or is prohibited.
  • Do a larger gathering when possible in the future, which may be in months or more.
  • Live-stream or Facebook Live the funeral for folks who cannot gather.
Best Practices
John Weit
Karyn L. Wiseman
Matthew D. O’Rear

DIGITAL WORSHIP
• Live song is still an option.
• Engage your musical staff and think differently.
• The Church will still sing.
• If you are doing welfare checks, do not do them in front of your family.

• You can provide pastoral care to persons through Facetime, Zoom, or phone. Ask if they are in a place where they are free to talk.

• If you are posting a photo from a Zoom session, block out names and phone numbers.

• If you are posting Prayers of the People, do not post last names.

• If you are asking for prayer concerns, offer the option of private messaging or texting you.
• Set up online giving
  • https://www.vancopayments.com/egiving/elca
  • https://get.tithe.ly/elca
  • https://www.paypal.com (non-profit)

• Add a QR code

• Remind people to give

• Allow time in worship to give

• Include in your communications
Resources

https://waytolead.org/digital-worship/
SENDING
Healer of Boundless Compassion

Healer of boundless compassion, peace for our suffering hearts: anoint us with health, embrace us with strength, and bring us to fullness of life.

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Dedication: "To the memory of my dear friend, Lois L. Elings."

John Weit
The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace bless you now and forever.

Amen.
Digital Worship

• Matthew D. O’Rear
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• Stacy Williams-Duncan
• John Weit

Resource Link