

Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place
=== *Spiritual Communion* ===
The Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost: October 25, 2020
The Season of Stewardship
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Introduction – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

The Word of God

Opening Hymn – Hymnal #372, "Praise to the Living God," v. 1 & 3

Verse 1:

Praise to the living God!
All praised be his Name
who was, and is, and is to be,
for ay the same.
The one eternal God
ere aught that now appears:
the first, the last, beyond all thought
his timeless years!

Verse 4:

His Spirit floweth free,
high surging where it will:
in prophet's word he spoke of old;
he speaketh still.
Established is his law,
and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart,
on sea, on land.

Opening Acclamation

Presider Glory to you, Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit.
People *And let us glorify your kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

Presider Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

***Spoken Gloria**

All *Glory to God in the highest,*
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

*For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.*

The Collect, Lessons, and Gospel :

The Collect of the Day *From Planning for Rites and Rituals 2019-2020*

Presider Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading: The Old Testament – Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Reader:

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm: Psalm 1 *Beatus vir qui non abiit*

Reader:

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Second Reading: The Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Reader:

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

***Gradual -- Celtic Alleluia**

After a brief introduction, sing two times through

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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The Gospel – Matthew 22:34-46

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People *Glory to you, O Christ.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Presider The Gospel of our Savior.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon – Rev. Lois

A Stewardship Testimonial – Christine Nadeau

The Nicene Creed *Adapted from the original Nicene Creed, 4th century A.D.*

*All We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.*

*We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.*

*For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.*

*He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.*

*We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
We confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and we look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

Prayers of the People *Composed & revised by Trisha Finnegan, Worship Committee member*

Reader leads and People respond:

Strengthened by the Spirit who gives us words to speak and hearts that care, let us bring forth our hopes and needs to our loving, liberating God, responding “God of mercy, hear our prayer.”

We pray for leaders in all faith traditions around the world who minister to those in their care. We pray especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mark, our Bishop, and Lois, our Priest-In-Charge. May they continue to serve as beacons of hope, equity, and love.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those in positions of leadership and authority in our nation, especially for Donald, the president; members of Congress; the justices of the Supreme Court; and our governors and mayors; that unified in purpose they will respond with wisdom, compassion, and justice to the needs of all people during this troubled time in our common life.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who journey from illness to health, despair to hope, grief to consolation, and loneliness to fellowship; especially for those suffering from chronic physical or mental illness, and for those affected by COVID-19.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for everyone experiencing financial hardship, or any housing, healthcare, or food insecurity, particularly in the most vulnerable communities of your Black, Brown, and Indigenous Children.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for victims of fire and other natural disasters, first responders, and all who offer aid. May they be consoled and comforted in their time of grief and loss.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all the departed, remembering the multitude of named and unnamed souls who have lost their lives because of racial injustice. May they rest in peace in that place where there is no pain or grief but only life everlasting.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the right to vote. Help us to hold this privilege and responsibility with the care and awareness it merits, realizing that our vote matters and it is an act of faith.

God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Reader: God of Peace, we are confronted with so many overwhelming needs in our world. Walk with us as we set aside our own desires and wants and join the call to alleviate human suffering. Transform these financial gifts we have made to Christ the Lord Church and our community into genuine acts of concern and ministry to others. In the name of the One who surpasses all understanding, we pray. ***Amen.***

Moment of Gratitude: A volunteer (pre-arranged) expresses thankfulness and appreciation for something that has affected their life.

Add your prayers for yourself and the world, and thanks for God’s blessings, out loud or in the chat.

Presider concluding prayer:

From "Collection of Prayers during these times," St. Anne's Episcopal Church website, Damascus, MD

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbor, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

Priest Let us confess our sins to God and our neighbors.

All ***Almighty and merciful God,
We have sinned against you, in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with all our heart.
We have not loved others as our Savior Christ loves us.
We are truly sorry.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
Help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be;
So that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.***

Priest Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion / The Spiritual Communion

Adapted from Eucharistic Prayer A, BCP; Chichester Cathedral website, UK; and CDSP (Church Divinity School of the Pacific) website, US

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

***Spoken Sanctus**

All *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Presider Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ. May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

The ‘Comfortable’ Words *Adapted from Chichester Cathedral website, UK*

Presider Hear the words of comfort our Savior Christ says to all who truly turn to him:
Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
Matthew 11:28

Hear what Saint John says:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atonement for our sins. *1 John 2:1-2*

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

Hear what Saint Paul says:

This saying is true and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Romans 8:38-39*

Spiritual Communion *Adapted from CDSP website*

Spiritual communion offers one way to sustain ourselves as we await the time when we can once again gather in the same space with other Christians to celebrate Eucharist. / The 1979 Prayer Book refers to spiritual communion in the form for Ministration to the Sick, directing the priest to assure a person unable to eat and drink the bread and wine “that all the benefits of Communion are received even though the Sacrament is not received with the mouth” (BCP 457). The Prayer Book for the Armed Services suggests a prayer for spiritual communion, modified here for group recitation.

Presider Remembering the words of our Lord Jesus, and of Saints John and Paul, let us say together a prayer for Spiritual Communion:

All In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming in glory. Since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Post Spiritual-Communion Prayer *From the Church of England*

The Presider and People pray together

*Lord, in these days of mercy, make us quiet and prayerful;
in these days of challenge, make us stronger in you;
in these days of emptiness, take possession of us;
in these days of waiting, open our hearts to the mystery of your cross.
Amen.*

Presider Blessing *From Morning Prayer, BCP*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn – Hymnal #636, "How Firm a Foundation," v. 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1:

How firm a foundation,
ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith
in his excellent word!
What more can he say
than to you he hath said,
to you that for refuge
to Jesus have fled?

Verse 2:

“Fear not, I am with thee;
O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God,
and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee,
and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

Verse 3:

“When through the deep waters
I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not
thee overflow;
For I will be with thee,
thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee
thy deepest distress.”

Dismissal

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Don't forget to join us for virtual coffee hour after the service,
11:00 am, through Zoom!

Check your email from Sandy for details.