

Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place
=== *Morning Prayer* ===
The Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost: November 15, 2020
The Season of Stewardship
THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Introduction – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

Opening Hymn – Hymnal #719, “America the Beautiful,” v. 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1:

O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.

Verse 2:

O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life!
America! America!
God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

Verse 3:

O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.

Officiant The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father
in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship him. *John 4:23*

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Officiant Lord, open our lips.
Response *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

All *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

Officiant The earth is the Lord's for he made it: Come let us adore him.

Venite *Psalm 95:1-7 Venite, exultemus*

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.*

*For the Lord is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.*

*Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!*

Psalm *Psalm 90:1-8,(9-11),12 Domine, refugium*

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

*Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.*

*Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.*

*You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."*

*For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.*

*You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.*

*In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.*

*For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.*

*Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.*

*[When you are angry, all our days are gone; *
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.*

*The span of our life is seventy years,
perhaps in strength even eighty; *
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.*

*Who regards the power of your wrath? *
who rightly fears your indignation?]*

*So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

The Old Testament – Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Reader:

Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is at hand;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response *Thanks be to God.*

The Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 5 :1-11

Reader:

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Response *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 25:14-30

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

Response *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Officiant The Gospel of our Savior.

Response *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

A Reflection – Rev. Lois

10 The Second Song of Isaiah *Quærite Dominum* Isaiah 55:6-11

A Reader leads the canticle recitation

Reader and People together

*Seek the Lord while he wills to be found;**
call upon him when he draws near.

*Let the wicked forsake their ways **
and the evil ones their thoughts;

*And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, **
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.

*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, **
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.

*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, **
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

*For as rain and snow fall from the heavens **
and return not again, but water the earth,

*Bringing forth life and giving growth, **
seed for sowing and bread for eating,

*So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; **
it will not return to me empty;

*But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, **
and prosper in that for which I sent it.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

A Reader leads the recitation

Reader and People together

We believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Officiant The Lord be with you.
Response *And also with you.*
Officiant Let us pray.

All ***Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your Name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.***

***Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours
 now and for ever. Amen.***

Officiant Let us now pray:

Suffrage B

A Reader leads each versicle (V.) and the People respond (R.):

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;
R. *Govern and uphold them, now and always.*

V. Day by day we bless you;
R. *We praise your Name for ever.*

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;
R. *Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. *For we put our trust in you.*

V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. *And we shall never hope in vain.*

The Doxology

All ***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

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: Rev. Lois

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

A Thanksgiving for Heroic Service

Officiant O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer for those in the Armed Forces of our Country

Reader: Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Prayer On Sunday

Reader: O God our King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, you conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by this victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will; and steel us to wait for the consummation of your kingdom on the last great Day; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Reader: Lord God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, bring the nations into your fold, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The General Thanksgiving

Officiant and People together

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.*

*We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.*

*And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom [*KRIS-us-tum*]

Reader: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Response **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn – Hymnal #680, “O God, Our Help in Ages Past,” v. 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1:

O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

Verse 2:

under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

Verse 3:

Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

Officiant 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.** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

Don't forget to join us for virtual coffee hour after the service through Zoom! Check your email from Sandy for details.