

*Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place*  
=== *Spiritual Communion* ===  
*The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost: July 26, 2020*  
**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

**Introduction** – Rev. Dr. Lois Williams

**The Word of God**

**Opening Hymn** – Hymnal #686, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing," v. 1 & 2

Verse 1:

Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace!  
Streams of mercy never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! Oh, fix me to it,  
mount of God's unchanging love.

Verse 2:

Here I find my greatest treasure;  
hither, by thy help, I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

**Opening Acclamation**

Presider      Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People*      *And blessed be God's 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        O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; 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 – 1 Kings 3:5-12

*Reader:*

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

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

*People*        *Thanks be to God.*

### Psalm: Psalm 119:129-136    *Mirabilia*

*Reader:*

Your decrees are wonderful; \*  
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

When your word goes forth it gives light; \*  
it gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and pant; \*  
I long for your commandments.  
Turn to me in mercy, \*  
as you always do to those who love your Name.  
Steady my footsteps in your word; \*  
let no iniquity have dominion over me.  
Rescue me from those who oppress me, \*  
and I will keep your commandments.  
Let your countenance shine upon your servant \*  
and teach me your statutes.  
My eyes shed streams of tears, \*  
because people do not keep your law.

**The Second Reading: The Epistle – Romans 8:26-39**

*Reader:*

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 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.

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 13:31-33, 44-52

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

**People**        *Glory to you, O Christ.*

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Presider        The Gospel of our Savior.

**People**        *Praise to you, O Christ.*

### The Sermon – Rev. Lois

**The Nicene Creed** *Adapted from the original Nicene Creed, 4<sup>th</sup> 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 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.”

That the church may continue to serve as a beacon of hope, justice, and love to a suffering nation and world. 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.

*God of mercy, hear our prayer.*

That the leaders of this and every land may seek peace, equity, and unity. 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.*

For all who journey from illness to health, despair to hope, grief to consolation, and loneliness to fellowship. We pray especially for those suffering from chronic physical or mental illness, for those affected by COVID-19, and for the many medical staff and caregivers who provide critical services. *God of mercy, hear our prayer.*

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. May they have confidence in your Providence in the weeks and months to come. *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 offer thanks for the many amazing ways in which, as a church, nation, or community, or as individuals, we have opened our hearts and minds to your mission of healing and reconciliation, and have changed and grown to meet the challenges. We draw our strength and courage from you, O Lord. *God of mercy, hear our prayer.*

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

Presider concluding prayer:

*Prayer in Time of Isolation, written by the Rev. Dr. Kate Sonderegger, Virginia Theological Seminary*

Almighty God: Our times are in your hand. We call upon you in this hour of our need, when we are lonely and must stand apart. Be our strength, O Sovereign Lord, our calm in the midst of raging seas, our refuge and our dwelling place. Sanctify to us this time drawn away from others, even as your Son, O Father, drew away to a lonely place for prayer. Deepen our need of you, O Lord, that every breath may be a whisper of the Spirit's prompting, a renewed searching of the deep things of God. Stir up in us the great act of intercession that we may spend our time apart in prayer for the world you created and sustain. Bless us in our turning toward you, and make us a blessing to those who stand in need of you, the whole fragile earth. All this we ask in the name of the great Physician, even Jesus Christ our Lord. *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 propitiation 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 Compline, BCP*

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn** – Hymnal #542, "Christ Is The World's True Light," v. 1, 2 & 3

Verse 1:

Christ is the world's true Light,  
its Captain of salvation,  
The Daystar clear and bright  
of every race and nation;  
new life, new hope awakes,  
for all who own his sway:  
freedom her bondage breaks,  
and night is turned to day.

Verse 2:

In Christ all races meet,  
their ancient feuds forgetting,  
the whole round world complete,  
from sunrise to its setting:  
when Christ is throned as Lord  
all shall forsake their fear,  
to ploughshare beat the sword,  
to pruning hook the spear.

Verse 3:

One Lord, in one great Name  
unite us all who own thee;  
cast out our pride and shame  
that hinder to enthrone thee;  
the world has waited long,  
has travailed long in pain;  
to heal its ancient wrong,  
come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

**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 live-streaming service,  
10:30 am, through Zoom!

Check your email from Sandy for details.