

*Worship Booklet for Sheltering-in-Place*  
=== *Morning Prayer* ===  
*The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost: September 26, 2021*  
*The Season of Pentecost*  
**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

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

**Opening Hymn** – Hymnal #401, “The God of Abraham Praise,” v. 1, 2 & 4

Verse 1:

The God of Abraham praise,  
who reigns enthroned above;  
Ancient of everlasting days,  
and God of love;  
the Lord, the great I AM,  
by earth and heaven confessed:  
we bow and bless the sacred Name  
for ever blest.

Verse 2:

He by himself hath sworn:  
we on his oath depend;  
we shall, on eagle wings upborne,  
to heaven ascend:  
we shall behold his face,  
we shall his power adore,  
and sing the wonders of his grace  
for evermore.

Verse 4:

The God who reigns on high  
the great archangels sing,  
and “Holy, holy, holy,” cry,  
“Almighty King!”  
Who was, and is, the same,  
and evermore shall be:  
eternal Father, great I AM,  
we worship thee.”

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 mercy of the Lord is everlasting: 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 124 Nisi quia Dominus*

*A Reader leads the recitation*

**Reader and People together**

*If the Lord had not been on our side, \**

*let Israel now say;*

*If the Lord had not been on our side, \**

*when enemies rose up against us;*

*Then would they have swallowed us up alive \**

*in their fierce anger toward us;*

*Then would the waters have overwhelmed us \**

*and the torrent gone over us;*

*Then would the raging waters \**

*have gone right over us.*

*Blessed be the Lord! \**

*he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.*

*We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; \**

*the snare is broken, and we have escaped.*

*Our help is in the Name of the Lord, \**

*the maker of heaven and earth.*

*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 – Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22**

*Reader: A reading from the Book of Esther.*

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me — that is my petition — and the lives of my people — that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

*Reader: The Word of the Lord.*

***Response Thanks be to God.***

## **The Epistle – James 5:13-20**

*Reader: A reading from the letter of James.*

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*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!

### The Gospel – Mark 9:38-50

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

**Response** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

Officiant The Gospel of our Savior.

**Response** *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### A Reflection – Rev. Lois

#### 14 A Song of Penitence Kyrie Pantokrator

*Prayer of Manasseh, 1-2, 4, 6-7, 11-15*

#### **Reader and People together**

*O Lord and Ruler of the hosts of heaven, \**  
*God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,*  
*and of all their righteous offspring:*  
*You made the heavens and the earth, \**  
*with all their vast array.*  
*All things quake with fear at your presence; \**  
*they tremble because of your power.*  
*But your merciful promise is beyond all measure; \**  
*it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.*

*O Lord, you are full of compassion, \*  
 long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.  
 You hold back your hand; \*  
 you do not punish as we deserve.  
 In your great goodness, Lord,  
 you have promised forgiveness to sinners, \*  
 that they may repent of their sin and be saved.  
 And now, O Lord, I bend the knee of my heart, \*  
 and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.  
 I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, \*  
 and I know my wickedness only too well.  
 Therefore I make this prayer to you: \*  
 Forgive me, Lord, forgive me.  
 Do not let me perish in my sin, \*  
 nor condemn me to the depths of the earth.  
 For you, O Lord, are the God of those who repent, \*  
 and in me you will show forth your goodness.  
 Unworthy as I am, you will save me,  
 in accordance with your great mercy, \*  
 and I will praise you without ceasing all the days of my life.  
 For all the powers of heaven sing your praises, \*  
 and yours is the glory to ages of ages. 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,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 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 A**

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

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### **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:*        Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours and everything in it. The world and all of its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you, and that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. Please receive these gifts we give today to Christ the Lord Church. **Amen.**

*At this time, please add your prayers for yourself and the world, and thanks for God's blessings, out loud or in the chat.*

## **The Collect of the Day**

Officiant: O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## **A Prayer for Saint Michael and All Angels** *September 29*

Reader: Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

## **A Prayer for Those Who Suffer of COVID-19** *By Juan Oliver (from episcopalchurch.org)*

Reader: Loving God, hope of the poor and source of all health: Look with compassion upon your creatures who suffer under the weight of this pandemic. Fill us with love toward our neighbor; deliver us from partisan motives as we strive for the common good; and strengthen those who labor for our health. We ask this through the healer of your creation, Jesus Christ, our health and our salvation. *Amen.*

## **A Collect for Mission**

Reader: Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; 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 – Gather #403, “Standin’ in the Need of Prayer,” v. 1, 2 & 4

### Verse 1:

Not my brother, nor my sister,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer;  
Not my brother, nor my sister,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer.

*(to Refrain)*

### Refrain:

It’s me, (It’s me,)  
It’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer.  
It’s me, (It’s me,)  
It’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer.

### Verse 2:

Not the preacher, nor the deacon,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer;  
Not the preacher, nor the deacon,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer.

*(to Refrain)*

### Verse 4:

Not the stranger, nor my neighbor,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer;  
Not the stranger, nor my neighbor,  
but it’s me, Oh Lord,  
Standin’ in the need of prayer.

*(to Refrain)*

*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*

## Announcements

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

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