

+ HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER +
19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2020

PRELUDE

Austrian Hymn

Robert Hobby

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

INTROIT (from Psalm 48)

- P Great is the Lord, and most worthy of praise, in the city of our God, His holy mountain.
- C **It is beautiful in its loftiness, the joy of the whole earth.**
- P Within Your temple, O God, we meditate on Your unfailing love.
- C **Like Your name, O God, Your praise reaches to the ends of the earth;**
- P Your right hand is filled with righteousness.
- C **Walk about Zion, go around her, count her towers;**
- P consider well her ramparts, view her citadels, that You may tell of them to the next generation.
- C **For this God is our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to the end.**

OPENING HYMN

Glorious Things of You are Spoken
Glorious things of You are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken formed You for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake Your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, You may smile at all Your foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply your sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Savior, since of Zion's city I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Your name.
Fading are the world's vain pleasures, all their boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures none but Zion's children know.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **O God, Lord of hosts, You have prepared a feast for all peoples. Call us into Your banquet; strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure; and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE

Philippians 4:1-9

¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

P Alleluia. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

C **The Lord is near; the God of peace is with us. Alleluia.** (Phil. 4)

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Renew Me, O Eternal Light

Renew me, O eternal Light, and let my heart and soul be bright,
illumined with the light of grace that issues from Your holy face.

Create in me a new heart, Lord, that gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, and with new life my soul inspire.

Grant that I only You may love and seek those things which are above
till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.

SERMON "Setting the Mind on Things Above" Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

THE APOSTLES' CREED

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
- P Gracious God, fill Your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for pastors, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to Your table of boundless grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P As creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect Your creatures that are endangered or mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures; cleanse rivers, lakes and waterways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P Bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P Let Your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill; and strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. We pray especially for those in long-term care facilities, those suffering the ongoing effects of Covid-19, all on our prayer line, and those we remember before You now...(pause). Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P When we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how You clothe all in Your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide food, clothing and personal assistance in our community. Fill us with Your compassion and generosity. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P As we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with Your presence. Remind us of the peace that guards our hearts and minds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.**
- P As we call on You, O God, enfold in Your loving arms all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

C 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.

CLOSING HYMN

In Thee is Gladness

In Thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
by Thee are given the gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest, our bonds Thou breakest;
who trusts Thee surely has built securely; He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining to see Thy shining, dying or living to Thee are cleaving;
naught can us sever: Alleluia!

Since He is ours, we fear no powers, not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses in worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story tell of His glory,
with hearts and voices all heav'n rejoices in Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, triumph o'er sadness,
love Him and praise Him and still shall raise Him glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
C Amen.
P Go in peace to serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Rejoicing

Handel/Smith

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Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:

Lector Matthew Martinez

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