

† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †
11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2020

PRELUDE

Italian Hymn

Gerhard Krapf

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

C **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your loving-kindness. In Your great mercy, wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not remove us from Your presence; do not take Your Spirit away. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and grant us a willing spirit to sustain us. Amen.**

P God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. 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.**

PSALM OF THE DAY (*Psalm 67*)

P May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us,

C **that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.**

P May the peoples praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You.

C **May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.**

P May the peoples praise You, O God; may all the peoples praise You.

C **Then the land will yield its harvest, and God, our God, will bless us.**

P God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth will fear Him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

C **Most High God, we give You thanks for those who have built and sustained this house of prayer to Your glory. We praise You for the fellowship of those gathered in worship, and we pray that all who seek You may find You and be filled with joy 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.**

OPENING HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word

God, whose almighty Word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray, and where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!

Lord, who once came to bring, on Your redeeming wing, healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind:
Oh, now to human-kind let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy dove, speed forth Your flight;
move on the water's face, bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three, all-glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might!
Boundless as ocean's tide, rolling both far and wide,
come now, with us abide. Let there be light!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.... ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant – ⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:10-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁰Then [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: ¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions,

murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CANTICLE

Open Our Eyes, Lord

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

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SERMON

Rev. Scott Geminn

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 Confident of God's care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

P Lord, You gather the church to be part of Your mission as ambassadors of Jesus Christ. As Jesus acknowledged the great faith of a woman from outside His people, help Your church discover and find blessing in the faith of people we might consider "outsiders." Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You have blessed us with the bounty of the earth. Grant Your grace to all Your creatures, that the earth will flourish. Relieve waters choked by pollution, renew soils stripped of nutrients, and refresh the air that all creatures need to live. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You call the nations to be glad and sing for joy. Let Your way be known among all the nations of the world, now divided by competing interests, contending alliances, and consumed by enormous worry. Bless us and make Your face shine upon all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You show unexpected mercy, kindness, and generosity. We pray for those who do not have enough, for outcasts in our villages, cities, and town, and for those in need of Your healing, especially all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now (*pause*). Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In You we live and move and have our being. Grant our congregation and community grace to find our life refreshed in You. Accompany us in the rhythms of late summer, especially as we prepare for schools to re-open. Give us rest and renewal, and strengthen us to carry on the work You have given us to do. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Your eternal promises are more than we could ever imagine. As you gather all the saints into Your divine presence, join us with them on the great day of Your salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from Your love, we offer these prayers to You; 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

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart; my zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

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

Olivet

J. Bert Carlson

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

Lector Becca Geminn

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