

**† HOME SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER †**  
**20th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 18, 2020**

**PRELUDE**

Immortal, Invisible

Carlos Staszeksi

**INVOCATION and OPENING VERSICLES**

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

**C Amen.**

P O Lord, open my lips,

**C and my mouth shall declare Your praise.** (*Psalm 51:15*)

P Give glory to God, our light and our life.

**C O come, let us worship Him.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY** (*from Psalm 96*)

P Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**C Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.**

P Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples.

**C For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be revered above all gods.**

P For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

**C Honor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**

P Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**C Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts.**

P Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before Him, all the earth.

**OFFICE HYMN**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above,  
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest – to both great and small –  
in all life Thou livest, the true Life of all.  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
and wither and perish – but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

**C Almighty God, You called Your servant Luke to be an evangelist and physician of the soul. As You inspired his Gospel to reveal the love and healing power of Your Son, fill us with the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim Your salvation among the nations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **EPISTLE**

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

<sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## VERSICLES

P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

**C unite my heart to fear Your name.**

P I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

**C and I will glorify Your name forever.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

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

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

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" <sup>21</sup>They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## 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 With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

P Gracious God, You call us by name and invite us to share Your good news. Send Your Holy Spirit among preachers, missionaries, and evangelists. We give thanks for the witness of Your servant Luke the evangelist, whom the church commemorates today. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of praise, the heavens and all creation declare Your salvation. From the rising of the sun to its setting, may the whole universe show forth Your goodness. Raise up devoted stewards of all that You have made. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of power, Your word of justice sounds forth in every place. Restore divided nations and communities with reconciling truth. May Your spirit guide the work of justices, court officials, and all vocations of the law, that Your promise of restoration may be known. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of light, we pray for those living with pain, illness, isolation, grief, anger, or doubt. Send comfort and healing through the gifted hands of doctors, nurses, health aides, caregivers and counselors. We pray especially for all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now...(PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Living God, as You raised Jesus from the dead, so will You raise up those who have died in faith. We give thanks for their witness, confident of Your saving grace. 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.**

**CANTICLE** *(based on Luke 2:29-32)*

Tune: LAND OF REST

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.

With saints of old, with saints to come, to You we lift our voice;  
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest be honor, love, and praise.

**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**

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

Henry Gerike

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

**Lector** Chris Gleason

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