

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

7:00 in the evening

An Order of Worship for the Evening

The church is dark, or partially so, when the service is to begin.

Prelude: *Allein Gott in der Höh* BWV 711

J. S. Bach

The Officiant greets the people with these words

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

And in the spirit the angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.

Revelation 21:10, 22-25

Let us pray:

Eternal God, who led your ancient people into freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we who walk in the light of your presence may rejoice in the liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Hymn #421 All glory be to God on high

Allein Gott in der Höh

**All glory be to God on high, and peace on earth from heaven,
and God's good will unfailingly be to all people given.**

**We bless, we worship you, we raise
for your great glory thanks and praise,
O God, Almighty Father.**

**O Lamb of God, Lord Jesus Christ, whom God the Father gave us,
who for the world was sacrificed upon the cross to save us;
and, as you sit at God's right hand
and we for judgment there must stand,
have mercy, Lord, upon us.**

**You only are the Holy One, who came for our salvation,
and only you are God's true Son, who was before creation.**

**you, only, Christ, as Lord we own
and, with the Spirit, you alone
share in the Father's glory.**

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Officiant: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119: 33-48

BCP p.766

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, *
and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, *
for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees *
and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.
- 41 Let your loving-kindness come to me, O Lord, *
and your salvation, according to your promise.
- 42 Then shall I have a word for those who taunt me, *
because I trust in your words.
- 43 Do not take the word of truth out of my mouth, *
for my hope is in your judgments.
- 44 I shall continue to keep your law; *

I shall keep it for ever and ever.

45 I will walk at liberty, *
because I study your commandments.

46 I will tell of your decrees before kings *
and will not be ashamed.

47 I delight in your commandments, *
which I have always loved.

48 I will lift up my hands to your commandments, *
and I will meditate on your statutes.

Out of the Depths We Cry Out to You in the Face of the Coronavirus

Creator God of the universe, God of a thousand names and faces, divine source of health and wholeness, whose compassion embraces the entire community of Earth: behold your fearful people all over the world as we confront the Coronavirus. Out of the depths we cry to you, O God. Holy God, hear our voices. Let your ear be attentive to our cries (Ps 130:1-2, adapted) as we pray for all who may be affected by the virus:

For all healthcare-givers -- nurses, physicians, aides, EMTs, paramedics, technicians and therapists; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For hospital and nursing home medical staff, assistants, and housekeepers who have close contact with patients and for the patients themselves; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For all who travel for their daily work over land and sea and through the air — flight attendants, pilots, ship captains and sailors, bus drivers, passengers and long distance truckers, warehouse workers and delivery drivers; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For all who handle essential goods and money — bankers, supermarket, village market, farm market, hardware store and convenience store workers; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For all who pump gas and repair automobiles; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For restaurant workers — bartenders, coffee shop baristas, cooks, servers, chefs, and dishwashers; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For hospitality workers -- hotel and motel receptionists, servers and housekeepers; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For daycare center staff who cuddle and comfort children and for all children; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For teachers and professors, coaches and cafeteria workers at schools and universities across the world and students everywhere; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them

For the homeless huddling for warmth over steam grates and under urban bridges; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For those whose cupboards are empty and their housing not secure, the lonely, the vulnerable, migrants, and the isolated who have no protectors; out of the depths, O God--

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For all who have tested positive, all who are waiting for test results, and all who are quarantined; out of the depths, O God -

We cry out to you. Protect them.

For all who have already died of the Coronavirus, now free from pain and suffering. May the God of hope carry them all the way home, and comfort their families and friends. Out of the depths, O God -

We cry out to you. Protect them.

Loving God, hasten the day when the virus will have run its course; quicken scientists to develop medications and vaccines; call out the best instincts of your people—love, neighborliness, compassion, and a sense of caring for every member of your beloved community on Earth. We pray out of the depths to you, O God of hope, who is with us even in the valley of the shadow of death. **Amen**

--Anne and Jeffery Rowthorn

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The Officiant and People say together

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 in the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT (Prayed together)

BCP p. 224

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer For our Country

BCP p.820

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove

ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for Strength and Confidence:

BCP p. 459

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your servants who are ill, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Officiant concludes with the following

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, creator of the changes of day and night, giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent, bestowing upon us occasions of song in the evening. As you have protected us in the day that is past, so be with us in the coming night; keep us from every sin, every evil, and every fear; for you are our light and salvation, and the strength of our life. To you be glory for endless ages. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn: #199 Come, ye faithful, raise the strain

St. Kevin

**Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
God hath brought his Israel into joy from sadness:
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.**

**'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ hath burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.**

**Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.**

**Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold thee as a mortal:
but today amidst thine own thou didst stand, bestowing
that thy peace with evermore passeth human knowing.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Postlude: Ricercare in C

J. Pachelbel