

Christ Episcopal Church of Guilford

Wednesday, May 6, 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: *Agnus Dei (Messe pour les Convents)*

F. Couperin

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 #664 My shepherd will supply my need

Resignation

**My Shepherd will supply my need,
Jehovah is his Name;
In pastures fresh he makes me feed
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.**

**When I walk through the shades of death,
thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings over flows,
thy oil anoints my head.**

The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
oh, may thy house be mine abode
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
No more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.

A reading from Isaiah

543:4-6

Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Officiant: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23 Prayed responsively.

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- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Prayers of the People during Global Pandemic Created and offered at Washington National Cathedral
Concluding Collect from Gloucester Cathedral

O God, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble; in this challenging and uncertain time of global pandemic and public health crisis, we come before you offering our prayers on behalf of those in need, the Church and the world.

For the Church, that it may not grow weary of proclaiming the gospel of Christ and serve as beacon of hope to a suffering world. We pray for Michael, the Presiding Bishop, Ian and Laura our Bishop(s), and all who minister in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all affected by coronavirus around the world. For the leaders of the nations that they may work together for the common good as the outbreak spreads. May barriers that divide be brought down that bonds of trust may be strengthened to benefit the entire human family. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Grant public health and government officials in our nation the strength and will to act swiftly and decisively, with wisdom and compassion in service to all. We pray especially for the President of the United States, the Congress, our Governor, and Selectmen in local municipalities. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they have access to medical care and regain their strength and health; grant them your healing grace. Give strength to all who are caring for loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For healthcare workers who, with hearts of service, stand on the front lines of providing care. Grant them courage and protection as they put the needs of public safety before their own. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Bless scientists and researchers around the world as they combat the virus, that their work may yield knowledge to develop a vaccine, treatments, and improved measures to reduce its spread. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Watch over all who provide essential services in the production, delivery and preparation of food, goods, and medicine, that they may be able to serve safely with the protection they need. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For the safety and well-being of all who travel and those who remain quarantined. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Remove the presence of fear and anxiety from our hearts, that confident in your providence we may be generous in sharing our resources. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Grant that our churches and communities of faith may reflect your love, as they minister to the most vulnerable among us; fill them with your Holy Spirit as they work to be your healing hands and feet to all in need. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For those who have already lost loved ones to the virus and those who will yet suffer such loss, that they may know the consolation of your love. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal. We pray especially for Thomas Puciato, Florence Clark, Lois Dillon and Roy Nuhn. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

Intercessions, petitions and thanksgivings may be offered at this time.

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)

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer For our Country

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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.*

Thanksgiving for a Child

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Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us through your blessed Son that whoever receives a little child in the name of Christ receives Christ himself: We give you thanks for the blessing you have bestowed on this family in giving them a child. Confirm their joy by a lively sense of your presence with them, and give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they seek to bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure, lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable, following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. *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: #478 Jesus, our mighty Lord

Monk's Gate

**Jesus, our mighty Lord, our strength in sadness,
The Father's conquering Word, true source of gladness;
Your Name we glorify, O Jesus, throned on high;
You gave yourself to die for our salvation.**

**Good shepherd of your sheep, your own defending,
in love your children keep to life unending.
You are yourself the Way: lead us then day by day
in your own steps, we pray, O Lord most holy.**

**Glorious their life who sing, with glad thanksgiving,
true hymns to Christ the King in all their living;
all who confess his Name, come then with hearts a flame;
The God of peace acclaim as Lord and Savior.**

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.*

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

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude: Ricercare (from *Fiori Musicali*)

G. Frescobaldi

