

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for March 22, 2020

Welcome by Pastor Kristen

Confession & Forgiveness:

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is present, who gives life,
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Amen.

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned away from you,
knowingly and unknowingly.**

We have wandered from your resurrection life.

We have strayed from your love for all people.

Turn us back to you, O God.

**Give us new hearts and right spirits,
that we may find what is pleasing to you
and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Receive good news: God turns to you in love.

“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.

All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,
who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

Amen.

Song: God is Holding Your Life (Psalm 121)

Verse 1

Lift up your eyes, behold the hills

From where will help and rescue come?

We call on One who made the earth

Who blessed the stars, the moon and sun

Refrain

God is holding your life

God is holding your life

God is holding your life

We believe

Verse 2

Turn down your gaze upon the earth

Where is the One who never sleeps

We call on One who guards you now

Your spirit safe in holy keep

Refrain

Verse 3

Venturing out or coming home

'Neath heat of day or cool of night

We call on One who hears your voice

And comes to heal and keep your life

Refrain

Prayer of the Day: Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Scripture reading: John 9:1-25

1As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind

so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." 10But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

13They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. 17So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

18The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." 22His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." 25He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

Sermon

Song: You Are the Light of the World

Verse 1: You are the light of the world, you are the light of the world.

So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are the light of the world.

Verse 2: You are a city on a hill, you are a city on a hill.

So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a city on a hill.

Verse 3: You are a candle in the dark, you are a candle in the dark.

So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a candle in the dark.

Verse 4: You are a star in the night, you are a star in the night.

So shine, shine, shine where you are. You are a star in the night.

Prayers of intercession:

During these stressful times, let us join together in prayer.

Each petition of the prayer ends with, "Hear our cry, O God."

Please respond with, "**Listen to our prayer.**"

O God our Healer, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Come to our aid as the coronavirus spreads globally, heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends from being infected. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline so that we may come together, working to control and eliminate the coronavirus. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Make us vigilant, attentive, and proactive in the eradication of all diseases, including COVID-19, malaria, dengue, HIV & AIDS, and the many rare diseases that make people feel like they are suffering alone. Bring us healing in the midst

of things that create suffering and often result in death for many people. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Heal our self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us, open ways beyond timidity and fear that too easily ignore our neighbor. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession: care-givers, nurses, attendants, doctors, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Inspire, give insight and hope to all researchers focused on developing a vaccine. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Sustain all workers and business owners who suffer loss of livelihood due to shut-downs, quarantines, closed borders, and other restrictions... protect and guard all those who must travel. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Guide the leaders of the nations that they speak the truth, halt the spread of misinformation and act with justice so that all your family may know healing. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Heal our world, heal our bodies, strengthen our hearts and our minds, and in the midst of turmoil, give us hope and peace. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Hold in your gentle embrace all who have died and who will die this day. Comfort their loved ones in their despair. Hear our cry, O God,

Listen to our prayer.

Holy God, all of the things that we ask from you, both aloud and in our hearts, we entrust to you. Remember all your family, the entire human race, and all your creation, in your love. **Amen!**

Lord's Prayer

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.

Song: Amazing Grace

1 Amazing grace! - how sweet the sound
-that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise

than when we'd first begun.

The Blessing:

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you, the holy angels accompany you. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit (+) cause grace to be mighty upon you and through you.

Go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!
And have fun doing it! We will! Amen!

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