

Wednesday Prayers

August 5, 2020
11:30 a.m.



Welcome!

*We are delighted to have you join us for worship today!
Everything you need to follow along with the broadcast is contained in this bulletin.*

THE INVITATORY

Officiant O God, make speed to save us;
People O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

THE LESSONS

First Lesson – Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please take a minute to reflect upon God's Word.

Psalm – 78:23-29 *read responsively by half verse*

23 So he commanded the clouds above *

and opened the doors of heaven.

24 He rained down manna upon them to eat *

and gave them grain from heaven.

25 So mortals ate the bread of angels; *

he provided for them food enough.

- 26 He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens *
and led out the south wind by his might.
- 27 He rained down flesh upon them like dust *
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.
- 28 He let it fall in the midst of their camp *
and round about their dwellings.
- 29 So they ate and were well filled, *
for he gave them what they craved.

Second Lesson – Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it is said, “When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.” (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please take a minute to reflect upon God’s Word.

THE PRAYERS AND CONFESSION

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Officiant Lord, have mercy.

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People together

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;

People **And let our cry come to you.**

Officiant In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;

People **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Officiant For this community, the nation, and the world;

People **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Officiant For the just and proper use of your creation;
People **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

Officiant For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

Officiant For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

Officiant For all bishops and other ministers;
People **For all who serve God in his Church.**

Officiant For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence – The People may add their own petitions.

Officiant Hear us, Lord;
People **For your mercy is great.**

Officiant We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence – The People may add their own thanksgivings.

Officiant We will exalt you, O God our King;
People **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

Officiant We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
Silence – The People may add their own petitions.

Officiant Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People **Who put their trust in you.**

Officiant

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and ever living God, whose steadfast love is with us in times of trouble: Guide this nation and its people during this time of uncertainty and fear; give wisdom and mercy to our leaders as they seek to protect the health and welfare of your people; strengthen our resolve to love and serve one another; and keep this nation under your care through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: comfort and relieve those who are sick, including those affected by the coronavirus; give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and comforted by your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gracious Father, we remember before you the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed and the destitute, the prisoners and captives and all who care for them, that your will for them may be fulfilled and that they may share with all of your saints in your eternal kingdom, through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Officiant and People

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Officiant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING *said by all*

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL AND GRACE

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**