



City Church  
PHILADELPHIA

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**LIBERTI**



Sunday October 25, 2020

Wilderness & Wisdom: The Book of Numbers  
“Water in the Wilderness”

# Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today for worship. City Church and Liberti Center City are partnering to offer this worship service and other online points of gathering during this season of physical distancing.

Our worship is “liturgical.” The Greek word “leitourgia” means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God’s call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

Please visit our websites, [www.citychurchphilly.com](http://www.citychurchphilly.com) and [www.libertichurch.org](http://www.libertichurch.org), for more information about worship, help, and connecting during this season. We are glad you are joining us and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff  
*Tuck Bartholomew, Chris Currie, Scott Jennings*

## Reflection

Compassion is born when we discover in the center of our own existence, not only that God is God and humans are human, but also that our neighbor really is our fellow human being. Through compassion it is possible to recognize that the craving for love that people feel resides also in our own hearts, that the cruelty the world knows all too well is also rooted in our own impulses....For a compassionate person nothing human is alien: no joy and no sorrow, no way of living and no way of dying.

- Henri Nouwen, *The Wounded Healer*

## Church Calendar

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

LENT

EASTER

PENTECOST

**ORDINARY TIME**

We observe a season of Ordinary Time from Pentecost until Advent, which we count as weeks following Pentecost. During this time we especially remember the lives and actions of Jesus' followers. We think about how the first Christians lived their lives, and how we should live ours today. This season of Ordinary Time takes up half the year and it doesn't offer big exciting festivals such as Christmas or Easter. As a result, as one Sunday follows another, this season can begin to feel, well, ordinary.

# Welcome

- Rev. Chris Currie

## Opening Song

*Come to the Water*

John Foley, Matt Maher



1. O let all who thirst, let them come to the wa-ter, and let all who have
2. And let all who seek, let them come to the wa-ter, and let all who have
3. And let all who toil, let them come to the wa-ter, and let all who are
4. And let all the poor, let them come to the wa-ter. Bring the ones who are



noth-ing, let them come to the Lord with-out mo-ney, with-out  
noth-ing, let them come to the Lord with-out mo-ney, with-out  
wea-ry, let them come to the Lord. All who la-bor with-out  
la-den, bring them all to the Lord. Bring the chil-dren with-out



price; why should you pay the price ex-cept for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
strife; why should you spend your life ex-cept for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
rest, how can your soul find rest ex-cept for the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
might; ea-sy the load and light: Come to the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

©1978 John B. Foley, SJ, & OCP Publications

## Opening of Worship

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.

*All* And also with you.

*All* O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,  
**make known his deeds among the peoples.**  
 Seek the Lord and his strength;  
**seek his presence continually.**  
 Remember the wonderful works he has done,  
**his miracles, and the judgments he uttered.**  
 He spread a cloud for a covering,  
**and fire to give light by night.**  
 They asked, and he brought quails,  
**and gave them food from heaven in abundance.**  
 He opened the rock, and water gushed out;  
**it flowed through the desert like a river.**  
 For he remembered his holy promise,  
**and Abraham, his servant.**  
 So he brought his people out with joy,  
**his chosen ones with singing.**

*from Psalm 105*

## Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

### Doxology

Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley

1. All ye who are of ten der heart, for- giv ing oth- ers take your part. Sing his prais- es,  
 2. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and worship him with hum ble ness! O\_\_ praise him,

Alle-lu ia! Ye, who long pain and sor- row bear, praise God and on him cast your care! O  
 Alle-lu ia! Praise, praise the Fa ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi- rit, three in one, O

praise him! O\_\_ praise\_\_him! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 praise him! O\_\_ praise\_\_him! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

©1998 Jonathan Gilley

*In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.*

## The Word of God

*Old Testament reading: Numbers 20:2-13*

<sup>2</sup>Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and against Aaron. <sup>3</sup>The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Would that we had died when our kindred died before the Lord! <sup>4</sup>Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness for us and our livestock to die here? <sup>5</sup>Why have you brought us up out of Egypt, to bring us to this wretched place? It is no place for grain, or figs, or vines, or pomegranates; and there is no water to drink." <sup>6</sup>Then Moses and Aaron went away from the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting; they fell on their faces, and the glory of the Lord appeared to them. <sup>7</sup>The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: <sup>8</sup>Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and your brother Aaron, and command the rock before their eyes to yield its water. Thus you shall bring water out of the rock for them; thus you shall provide drink for the congregation and their livestock. <sup>9</sup>So Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he had commanded him. <sup>10</sup>Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, "Listen, you rebels, shall we bring water for you out of this rock?" <sup>11</sup>Then Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock twice with his staff; water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their livestock drank. <sup>12</sup>But the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me, to show my holiness before the eyes of the Israelites, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them." <sup>13</sup>These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the Lord, and by which he showed his holiness.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel reading: John 7:37-44*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**All** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>37</sup>On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, <sup>38</sup>and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'" <sup>39</sup>Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit, because Jesus was not yet glorified. <sup>40</sup>When they heard these words, some in the crowd said, "This is really the prophet." <sup>41</sup>Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? <sup>42</sup>Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" <sup>43</sup>So there was a division in the crowd because of him. <sup>44</sup>Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

*"Water in the Wilderness"* – Rev. Chris Currie

## Offering and Presentation of Gifts

If you'd like to contribute to the work of either of our churches, you can do so at:

[citychurchphilly.com/give](http://citychurchphilly.com/give) or [libertichurch.org/give](http://libertichurch.org/give)

# Offertory Song

## All That I Need

Joshua Stamper



1. You're all that I need to live, you're all that I need to rest, you're  
2. You're all that I want to see, you're all that I want to give, you're



all that I need to climb up this rock - y path. The day of re- demp-  
all that I want to live in my heart- to- day.



- tion has come to this place. A - rise, and lift up your eyes, you saints!



And see the part-ing of the seas and the split-ting of the skies, the



blos-som-ing of trees in a des-ert long-since died, the chang ing of a heart that



makes the an gels\_ sing, a cold stone to a well, a cool and flow ing\_ spring.

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# Creed

**All** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

# Prayers

*Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.*

Almighty God, we long for the fullness of your kingdom,  
when your holiness will be known throughout the world.  
Grant us grace for the journey and wisdom in this wilderness  
as we press forward toward that great day.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All** Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus,  
you are the living water that quenches our deepest thirst.  
Soften our hearts toward you,  
and meet us in our times of need,  
so that we may find strength and sustenance in you.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All** Lord, hear our prayer.

*Having offered  
ourselves up in faith  
through the creed,  
affirming the power  
of God's redemption,  
we lift up the  
church, our world,  
and other needs to  
God in prayer for  
his provision and  
healing.*

*GOD SANCTIFIES US  
TO HIMSELF*

*Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense how far short they fall and become aware of their own shame and brokenness. In the same way, we make a confession of sin, both as a community and also silently as individuals. In this, we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.*

King of Kings and Lord of Lords,  
all authority belongs to you.  
Bless all earthly authorities  
in promoting peace and justice everywhere.  
Guide our upcoming election by your perfect wisdom,  
and lead us in seeking the shalom of this place.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All** Lord, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit,  
your renewing power is stronger than the grip of death.  
Be a healer to the sick, a friend to the lonely,  
a comforter to the afflicted,  
a home to the wanderer, a refuge to the fearful,  
a provider for the poor.  
For this, O Lord, we pray:

**All** Lord, hear our prayer.

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our Savior has taught us:

**All** 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
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.

## Confession of Sin

**All** Gracious Father,  
your faithfulness is proven and sure,  
yet we have forgotten your wonderful deeds.  
Your love is patient and kind,  
yet we have hardened our hearts against you.  
Your presence is a wellspring of life,  
yet we have made our home in the desert.  
Have mercy on us. Help us.  
Remake us by your grace.

*Silence is kept.*

## Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May the God of love  
bring you back to himself,  
forgive you your sins,  
and assure you of his eternal love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** Amen.

## Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**All** And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## Communion

The Lord be with you.

**All** And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

**All** We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All** It is right to give thanks and praise.

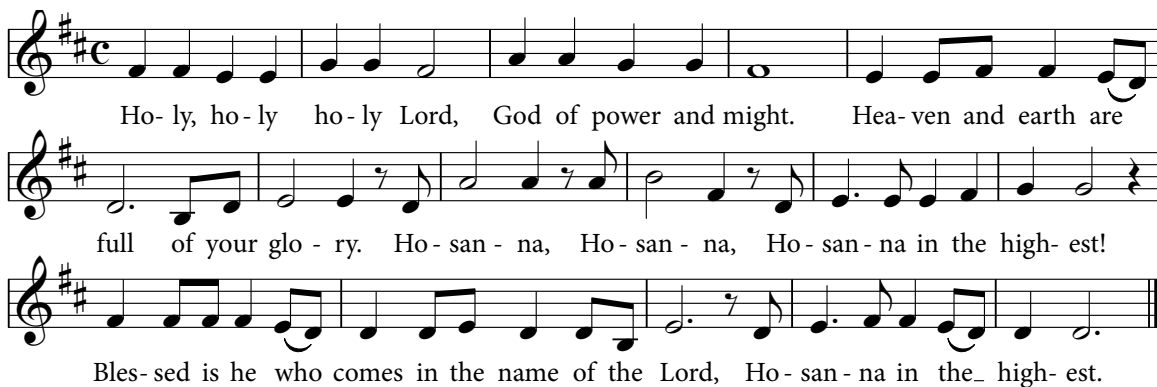
**GOD STRENGTHENS US  
AT HIS TABLE**

*Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer ("Prayers for Reflection" are included below). We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.*

# The Eucharistic Prayer

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty  
to give thanks to you at all times and in all places,  
O Lord our Creator,  
almighty and everlasting God!  
You created heaven with all its hosts  
and the earth with all its plenty.  
You have given us life and being,  
and preserve us by your providence.  
But you have shown us the fullness of your love  
in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ,  
the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation.  
For the precious gift of this mighty Savior  
who has reconciled us to you  
we praise and bless you, O God.  
With your whole Church on earth  
and with all the company of heaven  
we worship and adore your glorious name.  
And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you and singing:

## *Sanctus*



Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, God of power and might. Hea - ven and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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*The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
with whom and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

**All** Amen.

*The minister speaks the Words of Institution.*

## Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All** Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

**All** Therefore, let us keep the feast.

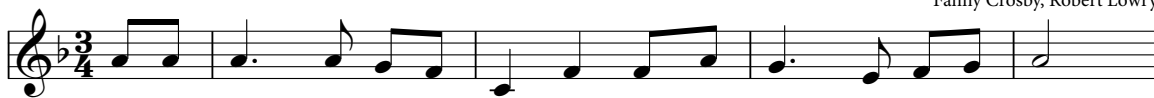
## Prayer after Communion

**All** God of our pilgrimage,  
you have led us to the living water.  
Refresh and sustain us  
as we go forward on our journey,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# Blessing and Sending

## *All the Way My Savior Leads Me*

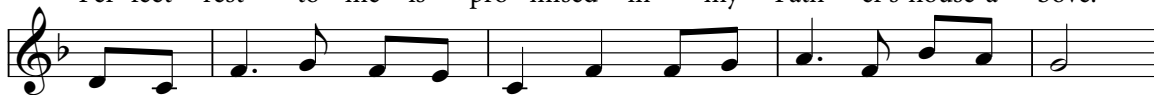
Fanny Crosby, Robert Lowry



1. All the way my sav-ior leads me; what have I to ask be - side?
2. All the way my sav-ior leads me, cheers each wind - ing path I tread,
3. All the way my sav-ior leads me; O the ful - ness of his love!



Can I doubt his ten - der mer - cy, who through life has been my guide?  
gives me grace for ev' - ry tri - al, feeds me with the liv - ing bread.  
Per - fect rest to me is pro - mised in my Fath - er's house a - bove.



Heav'n - ly peace, di - vin - est com - fort, here by faith in him to dwell!  
Though my wea - ry steps may fal - ter, and my soul a - thirst may be,  
When my spi - rit, clothed im - mor - tal, wings its flight to realms of day,



For I know what - e'er be - fall me, Je - sus do - eth all things well;  
gush - ing from the rock be - fore me, lo! a spring of joy I see;  
this my song through end - less ag - es: Je - sus led me all the way;



for I know, what - e'er be - fall me, Je - sus do - eth all things well.  
gush - ing from the rock be - fore me, lo! a spring of joy I see.  
this my song through end - less a - ges: Je - sus led me all the way.

## Benediction

May God, the giver of life,  
draw near to you,  
supply every need,  
and grant you joy and peace  
in his holy presence;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you, and remain with you always.

*All* Amen.

## Dismissal

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our  
Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*All* Thanks be to God.

## Announcements

- **Join us in Rhythms of Renewal**, as we cultivate the virtue of wisdom through the practice of discernment. Read more at [citychurchphilly.com/rhythms](http://citychurchphilly.com/rhythms) or [libertichurch.org/rhythms](http://libertichurch.org/rhythms)

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Jon Covert: guitar

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Charlie Muench: bass

Cat Ricketts: voice

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