



City Church
PHILADELPHIA

LIBERTI


Sunday September 27, 2020

Wilderness & Wisdom: The Book of Numbers
“Envy & Leadership”

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 and 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

At some thoughts one stands perplexed, especially at the sight of men's sin, and asks oneself whether one should use force or love and humility. Always decide to use humble love. If you resolve on that once and for all, you may subdue the whole world. Loving humility is marvelously strong, the strongest of all things, and there is nothing else like it.

- Fyodor Dostoyevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

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. Tuck Bartholomew

Opening Song

My Savior's Love Endures

Jennie Lee Riddle, JJ and Dave Heller

1. My soul does mag - ni - fy the great-ness of the Lord. On
2. He has done migh - ty things; ho - ly is his name. All
3. Oh I - srael, find your help sole - ly in the Lord; his

me his fa - vor lights; in my sa - vior, I re-joyce.
crea-tures un - der heav-en fear him whose mer - cy reigns.
mer - cy's with-out end, his pro - mise he'll up hold.

He has pro - ven his might, his arm out-stretched with strength; he has

scat - tered the proud and brought down all vain con - ceit. He has lif - ted the low - ly, - brings

good-ness to the poor. My Sa - vior's love en - dures. -

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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.

Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,
**All for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.**

Trust in the Lord, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
Take delight in the Lord,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
**Commit your way to the Lord;
trust in him, and he will act.**

He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord;
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.

from Psalm 37

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Doxology

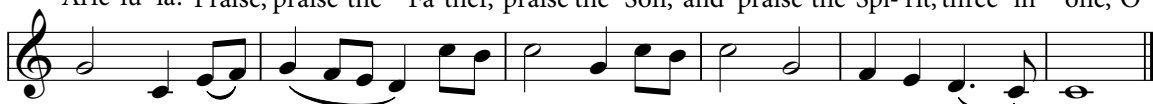
Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley



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!

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The Word of God

Old Testament reading: Numbers 12:1-16

¹While they were at Hazeroth, Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married (for he had indeed married a Cushite woman); ²and they said, "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?" And the Lord heard it. ³Now the man Moses was very humble, more so than anyone else on the face of the earth.

⁴Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting." So the three of them came out. ⁵Then the Lord came down in a pillar of cloud, and stood at the entrance of the tent, and called Aaron and Miriam; and they both came forward. ⁶And he said, "Hear my words: When there are prophets among you, I the Lord make myself known to them in visions; I speak to them in dreams. ⁷Not so

with my servant Moses; he is entrusted with all my house. ⁸With him I speak face to face— clearly, not in riddles; and he beholds the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?" ⁹And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them, and he departed.

¹⁰When the cloud went away from over the tent, Miriam had become leprous, as white as snow. And Aaron turned towards Miriam and saw that she was leprous. ¹¹Then Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord, do not punish us for a sin that we have so foolishly committed. ¹²Do not let her be like one stillborn, whose flesh is half consumed when it comes out of its mother's womb." ¹³And Moses cried to the Lord, "O God, please heal her." ¹⁴But the Lord said to Moses, "If her father had but spit in her face, would she not bear her shame for seven days? Let her be shut out of the camp for seven days, and after that she may be brought in again." ¹⁵So Miriam was shut out of the camp for seven days; and the people did not set out on the march until Miriam had been brought in again. ¹⁶After that the people set out from Hazeroth, and camped in the wilderness of Paran.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 20:17-28

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them on the way, ¹⁸"See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; ¹⁹then they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will be raised."

²⁰Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favor of him. ²¹And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." ²²But Jesus answered, "You

GOD SPEAKS TO US
IN HIS WORD

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.

do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?" They said to him, "We are able."²³ He said to them, "You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father."²⁴ When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers.²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.²⁶ It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant,²⁷ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave;²⁸ just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

"Envy & Leadership" – Rev. Tuck Bartholomew

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 or libertichurch.org/give

The offering is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly.com/give. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give—we're grateful simply for your presence here today.

Offertory Song

Have Mercy

Sandra McCracken, Thad Cockrell



1. Have mer - cy on me, have mer - cy on me.
2. O, help my un - be - lief, O, help my un - be - lief.
3. Have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.



O Lord, have mer - cy, O Lord, have mer - cy.

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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.

*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.*

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

God who sees,
draw near to those
who languish in the shadows of our city.
Sustain the exhausted and lift the heads of the hopeless.
Connect your church to the lonely,
and encourage the sick and homebound.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

God who acts,
guide the leaders you have given for our benefit.
Enable them to use their power and influence for others.
Pour into them a hunger for truth, justice, and humility.
Lend us your wisdom
to cherish these things in our voting this fall.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

God who serves,
make us a body of servants
humbly aligned with your agenda.
Kindle our imagination
and nurture in us the vision of a city renewed.
Grant us opportunities
to bless our neighbors and our enemies,
and fill our hearts with your self-giving love.
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 Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness,
we confess to you,
we confess with our whole heart
our neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
our wrong doing, thinking, and speaking,
the hurts we have done to others,
and the good we have left undone.
O God, forgive us, for we have sinned against you,
and raise us to newness of life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

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.

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.

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.

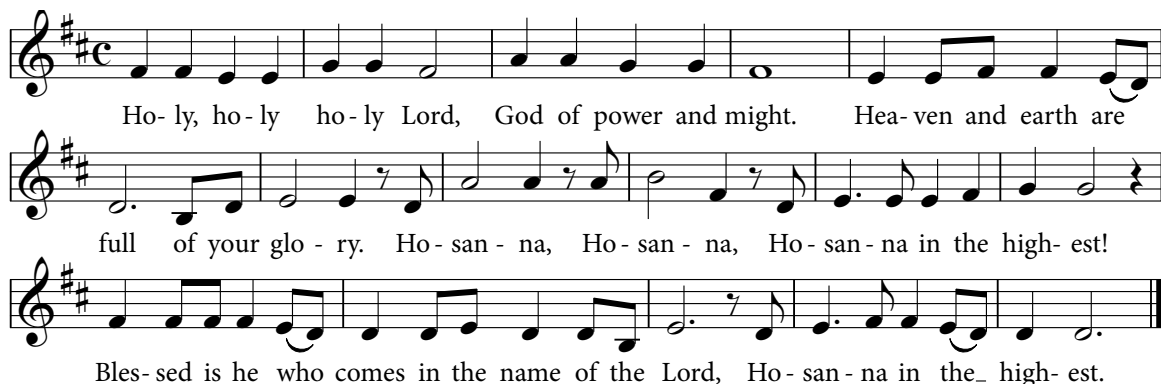
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

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.

We use wine in Communion. Non-alcoholic white grape juice and a gluten-free option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

If you would like prayer for healing and anointing with oil, please come to the back of the room after you have been served, and an elder will pray for you. This will be a time of liturgical prayer; you will not be asked to share your particular situation.

Prayer after Communion

All Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamor and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Matthew Bridges, George Elvey

1. Crown him with ma - ny crowns, the lamb up - on his throne. Hark!
2. Crown him the Lord of love, be - hold his hands and side, rich
3. Crown Him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave, who
4. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scep - ter sways from

how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own. A -
wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied. No
rose vic - to - rious to the strife for those he came to save. His
pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise: his

wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and
an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight, but
glo - ries now we sing, who died, and rose on high, who
reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet fair

hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
down - ward bends his wond'ring eye at my - ste - ries so bright.
died e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
flow'rs of pa - ra - dise ex - tend their fra - grance e - ver sweet.

Benediction

May Christ, who has nourished us with himself,
the living bread,
make you one in praise and love
and raise you up at the last day;
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 this week, cultivating the virtue of hope through the practice of lament: citychurchphilly.com/rhythms or libertichurch.org/rhythms
- Community groups have resumed! If you're not yet in one, check out the information under "connect" on either church website.

Ross Bellenoit: guitar

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

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