

Worship Service on Monday, September 12, 2022

Welcome and Greeting God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day Where were you on September 11, 2001?

***Hymn** “Rivers of Babylon”

***Call to Worship**

Let us bow before our Creator,
 whose Spirit moves over desert and sea,
whose Word has the power to create, to judge, and to save.
 Come, let us worship God.

***Prayer of Invocation**

Gracious God, when our spirits lift at the beauty of the day, you are Lord; and when chaos threatens to overwhelm and we dread the next news cycle – still you are Lord. Always you are creating, redeeming, sustaining.

Speak then your mercy into this place until we discover the courage to open our eyes, unclench our hands, and move toward our neighbor in need, until all the world rises and moves with the rhythm of your grace; for we long to honor the name of Jesus in our lives. We pray that your Holy Spirit may continually be our breath. Amen.

Psalm 14 *New Revised Standard Version*

Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.”

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is no one who does good.

The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind to see
if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse;
there is no one who does good, no, not one.

Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people
as they eat bread, and do not call on the LORD?

There they shall be in great terror, for God is with the company of the righteous.

You confound the plans of the poor, but the LORD is their refuge.

O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion!

When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 *New Revised Standard Version*

At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem: A hot wind comes from me out of the bare heights in the desert toward my poor people, not to winnow or cleanse – a wind too strong for that. Now it is I who speak in judgment against them. . . .

“For my people are foolish, they do not know me; they are stupid children, they have no understanding. They are skilled in doing evil, but do not know how to do good.”

I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.

I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before of the LORD, before his fierce anger.

For thus says the LORD: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

I Timothy 1:12-17 *New Revised Standard Version*

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Response: *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

Hymn “We Fall Down”

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Prayers of Intercession

Spirit of Life, in the beginning you hovered over creation; still you brood over the world. We pray for the earth that mourns: for rivers smeared with waste; ground stripped and ravaged; air that harms us. Do not let us wait too long: teach us, who are foolish, what it means to do good.

We pray for all who cannot rest in safety, who must remain alert to signs of danger because their countries are riven by war, or because their homes are torn by violence, or because they have no shelter but the street. Help us to move with compassion toward those who are in need.

We pray for neighbors who are troubled in mind or body or spirit: for mothers who face hard illness; for brothers haunted by anxious thoughts; for children who do not know whom they can trust. We lift the names and faces we know into the light of your love.

God of holy love, of power and truth, help us neither to bow to fear, nor to be silenced by chaos. Instead, move us resolutely toward your world in need; until we share the mercy we have discovered in your name. Patient and persistent God, let your grace and mercy overflow from our lives that we might honor you.

Time of Silent Prayer

In the name of Jesus we pray together:

The 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. Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day Where were you on September 11, 2001?

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

***Offering Prayer**

Holy One, receive these offerings as you receive our lives. Gather our false starts and uncertain efforts, our generosity and our reluctance. Enliven us with your breath and make your purposes known that our lives might show forth your glory. For we pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit. Amen.

***Song of Offering** “In His Time”

Message “Come From Away” Rev. Joyce Rich

***Blessing**

May the Creator’s holiness **burn away our complacency,**
may the Living Word **expose our foolishness,**
may the Spirit of mercy **turn us home,**
that God’s grace might spill from our lives, **giving hope to a perishing world.**
Amen. **And Amen.**

***Hymn** “Mighty to Save”

Announcements

Read For Next Week: Psalm 4; Jeremiah 8:18—19:1

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion; Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2,** Kimberly Bracken Long, editor
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