



THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING SENTENCES

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Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is Risen.

Congregation: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

THE COLLECT OF PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GLORIA

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COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can

desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING (seated)

Acts 17:22-31

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, *he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands,* ²⁵*nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.* ²⁶*From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would*

live, ²⁷*so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us.* ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' ²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

THE PSALM

Psalm 66:7-18

Read in unison

- ⁷ Bless our God, you peoples; *
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- ⁸ Who holds our souls in life, *
and will not allow our feet to slip.
- ⁹ For you, O God, have proved us; *
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- ¹⁰ You brought us into the snare; *
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- ¹¹ You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
- ¹² I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
- ¹³ I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts
with the smoke of rams; *

I will give you oxen and goats.

¹⁴*Come and listen, all you who fear God, *
and I will tell you what he has done for me.*

¹⁵*I called out to him with my mouth, *
and his praise was on my tongue.*

¹⁶*If I had found evil in my heart, *
the Lord would not have heard me;*

¹⁷*But in truth God has heard me; *
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.*

¹⁸*Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, *
nor withheld his love from me.*

THE SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³*Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;*

¹⁶*yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.*

¹⁸*For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.*

²¹*And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.*

The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

John 14:15-21 The Rev. Deacon Kathleen Comer

Celebrant: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

Congregation: ***Glory be to thee, O Lord.***

¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of the Lord

Congregation: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON (seated)

The Rev. Robert Childers

NICENE CREED (standing)

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THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Sean our Presiding Bishop, and Shannon our Bishop, Robert, Michael and Kathleen our clergy; that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world. Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of St. Augustine and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

THE PEACE (standing)

Celebrant: *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*

Congregation: *And with thy spirit.*

BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: *The Rev. Robert Childers*

THE OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer II

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Celebrant: *The Lord be with you.*

Congregation: *And with thy spirit.*

Celebrant: *Lift up your hearts.*

Congregation: *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

Celebrant: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

Congregation: *It is meet and right so to do.*

THE SANCTUS

The Congregation stands or kneels

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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THE FRACTION ANTHEM

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THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(standing or kneeling)*

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THE COMMISSIONING OF GOD'S PEOPLE
