



## **THE WORD OF GOD**

**PROCESSIONAL**  
H#423

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**OPENING SENTENCES**

*Page 355*

**Celebrant:** *Alleluia. Christ is Risen.*  
**Congregation:** *The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.*

**THE COLLECT OF PURITY**

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

**GLORIA**

*L#243*

**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

*<sup>22</sup>Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For 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. <sup>24</sup>The 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, <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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, <sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>For '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.' <sup>29</sup>Since 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. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because 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

*<sup>7</sup> Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;  
<sup>8</sup> Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.  
<sup>9</sup> For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.  
<sup>10</sup> You brought us into the snare; \*  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.  
<sup>11</sup> You let enemies ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.  
<sup>12</sup> 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.*

<sup>13</sup>*I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts  
with the smoke of rams; \**

*I will give you oxen and goats.*

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

<sup>15</sup>*I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.*

<sup>16</sup>*If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;*

<sup>17</sup>*But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.*

<sup>18</sup>*Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.*

## **THE SECOND READING**

*1 Peter 3:13-22*

<sup>13</sup>*Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but 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;*

<sup>16</sup>*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. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil.*

<sup>18</sup>*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, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who 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.*

<sup>21</sup>*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, <sup>22</sup>who 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.**

**SEQUENCE HYMN**

*Spirit of the Living God*

*L#115*

**THE GOSPEL**

*John 14:15-21*

*The Rev. Robert Childers*

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

**Congregation:** *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

*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 to you, Lord Christ.*

## **THE SERMON**

*The Rev. Robert Childers*

## **POST SERMON REFLECTION MUSIC**

### **NICENE CREED**

*Page 358*

### **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (standing)

*Form I*

*Page 383*

*With all our heart and with all our mind,  
let us pray to the Lord, saying*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church  
of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For our Bishop Shannon, our clergy Robert, Michael and Kathleen, and for all the  
clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For our President Donald, Governor Jeff, Parish President Cynthia, for the leaders of  
the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For this city, the surrounding community, and for those who live in them,  
let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it,*

*let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

**THE PEACE** (standing) **Celebrant:** *The peace of the Lord be always with you.*  
**Congregation:** *And also with you.*

## **BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

### **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

**Celebrant:** *The Rev. Robert Childers*

**ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY** You Are Near  
B#30

**THE PRESENTATION** Praise God From Whom All Blessing Flow

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** Eucharistic Prayer B Page  
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**Celebrant:** *The Lord be with you.*

**Congregation:** *And also with you.*

**Celebrant:** *Lift up your hearts.*

**Congregation:** *We lift them to the Lord.*

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

