

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Hymnal #680

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.; para. of Psalm 90

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Collect for Purity

Gloria

***Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.***

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24*

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Psalm: *Psalm 100*

¹***Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; ****

***serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.***

²***Know this: The LORD himself is God; ****

***he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.***

³***Enter his gates with thanksgiving;***

go into his courts with praise; *

give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

⁴***For the LORD is good;***

his mercy is everlasting; *

and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

The Second Reading: *Ephesians 1:15-23*

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Holy Gospel: *Matthew 25:31-46*

[Jesus said,] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the

kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People - *All remain standing.*

Presider or deacon

Let us offer our prayers for the healing touch of Christ among all people, saying **Hear our prayer.**

The Presider will add a concluding Collect.

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. Leader and People

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Music

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Hymnal #470

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;
and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt.

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People ***And of thine own have we given thee.***

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A from Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People ***And also with you.***
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father. . .
. . .Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption. . .

. . .Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Music

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to take Him at His word.
Just to rest upon His promise, Just to know, 'Thus saith the Lord.'

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, Just to trust His cleansing blood.
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'Neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, Just from sin and self to cease.
Just from Jesus simply taking Life and rest and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me, Wilt be with me to the end.

Louisa M. R. Stead (1850-1917)

Sending Forth

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant and People

***Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us
as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Blessing

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand;
bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;
strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side;
songs of praises, I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796), alt.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

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