



# Welcome to Worship!

Catoctin Presbyterian Church in Diaspora  
March 22, 2020

# Prelude

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

Donald K. Burgess and Mark A. Fletcher

# Call to Worship

Isaiah 41:10

Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid,  
for I am your God.

***I will strengthen you, I will help you,***

***I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.***

# Opening Prayer

O God, You are infinite, eternal and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth.

***Your works everywhere praise You, and Your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ our Savior. Therefore we praise You, blessed and holy Trinity, one God, forever and ever. Amen.***

# Passing the Peace

# Prayer for Illumination

***Speak to us, living God, as You have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of Your prophets, the breath of Your Spirit, and the life of Your Son, so that we may live according to Your word; through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
Amen.***

# Scripture Reading

Psalm 23:1-6

# Psalm 23 (NLT)

The Lord is my shepherd;

I have all that I need.

He lets me rest in green meadows;

He leads me beside peaceful streams.

He renews my strength.

# Psalm 23 (NLT)

He guides me along right paths,  
bringing honor to His name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,  
I will not be afraid,  
for You are close beside me.

Your rod and Your staff protect and comfort me.

# Psalm 23 (NLT)

You prepare a feast for me

in the presence of my enemies.

You honor me by anointing my head with oil.

My cup overflows with blessings.

# Psalm 23 (NLT)

Surely Your goodness and unfailing love  
will pursue me all the days of my life,  
and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

# Scripture Reading

John 9:1-7 (8-41)

# John 9:1-7 (NLT)

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.

“Rabbi,” his disciples asked him, “why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?”

# John 9:1-7 (NLT)

“It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world.”

# John 9:1-7 (NLT)

Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes. He told him, "Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam" (Siloam means "sent").

So the man went and washed and came back seeing!

**Withstanding**

# Withstanding

- Temptation
- Confusion
- Questions
- [~~Confrontation~~] Pandemic

**“It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world.”**

*– John 9:3-5 (New Living Translation)*

**Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; but in order that the works of God might be revealed in him, we must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”**

*– John 9:3-5 translated by Alicia Carla Simpson  
Coordinator of Adult Education at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Glenside, PA*

# Morning Prayers

Satisfy us with Your love in the morning,  
***and we will live this day in joy and praise.***

We praise You, God our creator, for Your  
handiwork in shaping and sustaining Your  
wondrous creation.

# Morning Prayers

Especially we thank You for:

- ◆ the miracle of life and the wonder of living . . . .
- ◆ particular blessings coming to us in this day . . . .
- ◆ the resources of the earth . . . .
- ◆ gifts of creative vision and skillful craft . . . .
- ◆ the treasure stored in every human life. . . .

# Morning Prayers

People of God, for what else do we give thanks?

*Individual prayers of thanksgiving may be offered...*

# Morning Prayers

God of mercy, the psalmists cried out to You when life was threatening or cruel, and they called on You for protection, healing, and justice.

Following their example, we lift our lamentations to You, praying for Your swift intervention.

# Morning Prayers

Especially we lament:

- ◆ the physical suffering caused by COVID19 . . . .
- ◆ the economic hardship induced by the pandemic, especially for those already struggling . . . .
- ◆ the unnecessary suffering and anxiety caused by our being unprepared for this crisis . . . .
- ◆ the fear that leads to bad behavior . . . .
- ◆ the Church's failures to lead, to serve, and to heal . . . .

# Morning Prayers

People of God, for what else do we lament?

*Individual prayers of lamentation may be offered...*

# Morning Prayers

We dare to pray for others, God our Savior,  
claiming Your love in Jesus Christ for the whole  
world, committing ourselves to care for those  
around us in his name.

# Morning Prayers

Especially we pray for:

- ◆ those who work for the benefit of others . . . .
- ◆ those who cannot work today . . . .
- ◆ those who teach and those who learn . . . .
- ◆ people who are poor . . . .
- ◆ the church in Europe. . . .

# Morning Prayers

People of God, for what else do we pray?

*Individual prayers of intercession and supplication  
may be offered...*

# Morning Prayers

Recent prayer requests:

- ◆ For Chris, Deborah Abas and Abraham, cousins of Russ M., who live in the Seattle community as they endure the coronavirus epidemic
- ◆ Comfort for Susan Barron, who found her friend dead
- ◆ For those quarantined due to the coronavirus
- ◆ For Helen H. as she applies to UVA
- ◆ Travel mercies for Ryan Jones on his senior class trip to Budapest
- ◆ For people (especially teens) needing braces
- ◆ For Mark F. who sprained his knee due to a fall

# Morning Prayers

Recent prayer requests:

- ◆ Thanks for a wonderful country where we can handle just about anything
- ◆ Jacob's birthday
- ◆ Brent's birthday
- ◆ The opportunity to gather for worship
- ◆ Thanks for healthcare workers on the frontlines of the pandemic
- ◆ That fear and panic about the pandemic would be changed to understanding and wisdom
- ◆ For Jonathan Woods who has been stuck in Kuwait

# Morning Prayers

As You cause the sun to rise, O God, bring the light of Christ to dawn in our souls and dispel all gloom.

Give us grace to reflect Christ's glory; and let his love show in our deeds, his peace shine in our words, and his healing in our touch, that all may give him praise, now and forever.

***Amen.***

# Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

- *use your bank's online bill paying options*
- *mail your check to the church -  
PO Box 195, Waterford, VA 20197*
- *go to [catoctin.org/donate](http://catoctin.org/donate)*



# Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise Him, all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

# Charge and Benediction