

September 15, 2021 6PM

**YouTube Channel** 

St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church www.stgregoryathens.org | 706.546.7553 | office@stgregoryathens.org 3195 Barnett Shoals Road, Athens, GA 30605

# AN ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR EVENING: Proper 19 of Ordinary Time

Let us observe a moment of silence as we enter this sacred time and place.

Our service this evening is from the New Zealand Prayer Book and can also be found in the online bulletin.

Officiant: Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is

the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5.16-18

Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

People Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honour,

power and might, be to our God for ever and ever. AMEN.

## **Gathering Acclamation**

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful



#### PRAYER FOR LIGHT

Officiant Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame, burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth. Amen.

Officiant Let us in silence remember our need for God's forgiveness.

People God of mercy, we have sinned against you and against others.

We have sinned in what we have done and in what we have failed to do.

We are truly sorry. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

who died for our sins, forgive us all that is past

and raise us to newness of life. AMEN.

Officiant

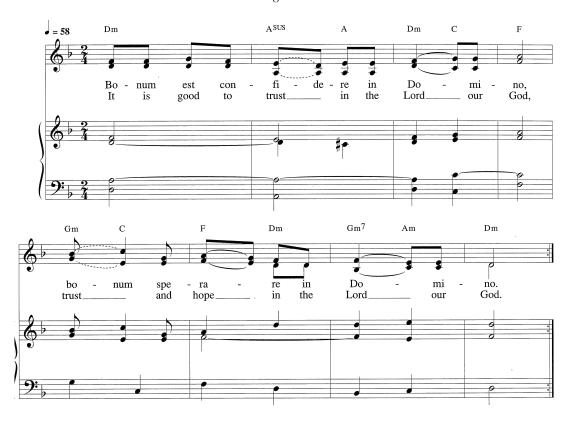
Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive our sins,

strengthen us by the Holy Spirit, and keeps us in life eternal;

through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. AMEN.

## Response

## It is good to trust



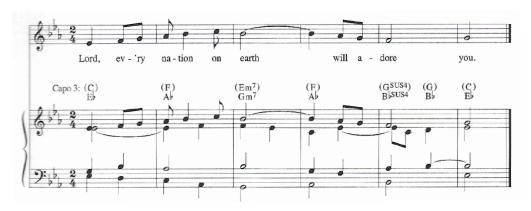
## SELECTION FROM THE PSALTER

Officiant: O God, make speed to save us. People: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

#### **PSALM 72**



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen FIRST READING 1 Corinthians 2:1-13

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him'-

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

## Response

#### Jesus Calls Us



- 2. Jesus calls us to confess him Word of Life and Lord of All, sharer of our flesh and frailness, saving all who fail and fal. Tell his holy human story, tell his tales that all may hear, tell the world that Christ in glory came to earth to meet us here.
- 3. Jesus calls us to each other: found in him are no divides. Race and class and sex and language, such are barriers he derides. Join the hands of friend and stranger, join the hands of age and youth, join the faithful and the doubter in their common search for truth.
- 4. Jesus calls us to his table, rooted firm in time and space, where the church in earth and heaven finds a common meeting place. Share the bread and wine, his body, share the love of which we sing, share the feast for saints and sinners, hosted by our Lord and King.

SECOND READING Matthew 4:18-25

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.' Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

#### CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

Let us quietly reflect as the Divine Spirit leads.

### THE PRAYERS

Officiant: The Lord be with you. People: And also with you.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all this evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. AMEN.

#### **INTERCESSIONS**

Make your ways be known upon earth, O God, your saving power among all peoples.

Renew your Church in holiness, and help us to serve you with joy.

Guide the leaders of this and every nation, that justice may prevail throughout the world.

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Make us instruments of your peace, and let your glory be over all the earth.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN.

# DEDICATION FESTIVAL OF A CHURCH

Come to Christ,to that living stone, which people have rejected, but in God's sight chosen and precious; and like living stones be yourselves built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. AMEN.

#### COLLECT FOR EVENING

Gracious God, you have given us much today; grant us also a thankful spirit. Into your hands we commend ourselves and those we love. Be with us still, and when we take our rest renew us for the service of your Son Jesus Christ. AMEN.

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

# **Closing Acclamation**

We cannot measure how you heal



- 2. The pain that will not go away, the guilt that clings from things long past, the fear of what the future holds, are present as if meant to last. But present too is love which tends the hurt we never hoped to find, the private agonies inside, the memories that haunt the mind.
- 3. So some have come who need your help and some have come to make amends, as hands which shaped and saved the world are present in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind and soul, to disentangle peace from pain and make your broken people whole.

#### FINAL BLESSING

May the love of Jesus Christ bring us wholeness, the grace of God the Father grant us peace, the breath of the Holy Spirit instill passion and the unity between them give us strength for this and every day. AMEN.

Officiant Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

People Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

#### About Taizé...

Taizé (pronounced "teh-ZAY") is not a musical form but rather a worship style made popular through the work of the ecumenical Christian community in Taizé, France. The retreat center there (founded in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz) is visited every year by thousands of visitors, and services are held in many languages. The community has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a primary focus on youth. The music of Taizé emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture repeated and sometimes sung in canon. Ecumenical services based on this model and music are held in many churches throughout the world.

The Rev. Nikki Mathis, Rector
The Rev. Christina Dondero, Deacon
RuthElizabeth Conine-Nakano, Officiant
Daniel Nakano, Assistant Officiant
Annette Bates, Piano
Stacie Court, Cantor
David Stooksbury, Reader
Terri Tillman & Dallas Bono, Viritual Ministers
Jonathan Klein, Organist & Director of Music
Joseph Napoli, Choir Director
Catherine Drewry, Director of Children's Ministries
Kendall M. Kookogey, Parish Administrator
Mark Hein, Buildings & Grounds
Allena Armour, Sexton