



The Church in Exile
March 22, 2020

✠ **Greeting and Announcements** (Clergy) (Sitting)

Priest: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

✠ **The General Confession**

Priest: Dearly beloved, the Scriptures teach us to acknowledge our many sins and offenses, not concealing them from our heavenly Father, but confessing them with humble and obedient hearts that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy. We ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before Almighty God, but especially when we come together in his presence to give thanks for the great benefits we have received at his hands, to declare his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things which are necessary for our life and our salvation. Therefore, draw near with me to the throne of heavenly grace.

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.

O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Priest: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, desires not the death of sinners, but that they may turn from their wickedness and live. He has empowered and commanded his ministers to pronounce to his people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins. He pardons and absolves all who truly repent and genuinely believe his holy Gospel. For this reason, we beseech him to grant us true repentance and his Holy

Spirit, that our present deeds may please him, the rest of our lives may be pure and holy, and that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

✠ **The Collect of the Day** (Standing)

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

✠ **Praise and Worship**

✠ **The Reading of the Lessons**

The Old Testament Reading: *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

The Psalm: 23

The Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 5:8-14*

✠ **Agnus Dei** (Sung) (Standing)

✠ **The Gospel Reading** *John 9*

✠ **Agnus Dei** (Sung) (Standing)

✠ **The Sermon**

✠ **The Prayers of the People** (Worship Leader)

Reader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: *Hear our prayer.*

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their leaders, especially Donald, our President, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

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People: Hear our prayer.

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to your servant +Philip, our Bishop, that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer the holy eucharist, your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Reader: Lord, in your mercy:

People: Hear our prayer.

Priest: Heavenly Father, grant these our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

✠ **The Peace** (Clergy) (Standing)

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

✠ **The Blessing**

Priest: May God the Father, who does not despise the broken spirit, give to you a contrite heart. **Amen.**

Priest: May Christ, who bore our sins in his body on the tree, heal you by his wounds. **Amen.**

Priest: May the Holy Spirit, who leads us into all truth, speak to you words of pardon and peace. **Amen.**

Priest: And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

✠ **Closing Song**

✠ **Dismissal**

Priest: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

✠ **Praise Reprise** (Worship Team)