

Service of Morning Prayer  
March 22, 2020

*Presider:* Lord, open our lips.

*People:* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Presider:* 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.**

The Invitatory:

*Presider:* The Lord is our refuge and strength: O come, let us worship.

Venite:

**Psalm 95.1–7**

*All:* **Come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God,  
and a great king above all gods.**

**In his hand are the caverns of the earth,  
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

**The sea is his for he made it,  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of  
his hand.**

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

**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.**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
through the waters of baptism  
your Son has made us children of light.  
May we ever walk in his light  
and show forth your glory in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen**

First Reading:  
**Exodus 16:1-4a,13b-15**

*Presider:* A reading from the book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.' Then the LORD said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. And in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.'

*Presider:* The word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Presider: Glory to you, Jesus Christ, our good shepherd. In the waters of baptism you give us new birth, at your table you nourish us with heavenly food, and in your goodness and mercy, you guide us beyond the terrors of evil and death to your Father's home to dwell in eternal light. Glory to you for ever.  
**Amen.**

Gospel Reading:  
**John 6:25-39**

*Gospeller:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

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

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Gospeller:* When the crowd found Jesus on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has

sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

*Gospeller:* The Gospel of Christ.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon:

*The Rev. Brian Suggs*

The Nicene Creed:

*Presider:* I invite those who would like to make a profession of Christian faith to join with me in The Nicene Creed.

*All:* **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People:

*Presider:* Having reaffirmed our faith, let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

*Presider:* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***All:* 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Presider:* May the God of peace enable us to do his will in every kind of goodness, working in us what pleases him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon us and remain with us always.

***All:* Amen.**

*Presider:* Go forth in the peace of our Lord Jesus this day.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**