

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, West Roxbury

Online Liturgy for November 15, 2020

The Word of God

Prelude

Celebrant says

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.
Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament

Lector **A reading from the prophet Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,

he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people

who rest complacently on their dregs,

those who say in their hearts,

“The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;

though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near,
near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector. The Word of the Lord.

People. Thanks be to God.

The Psalm is to be led by the Lector, responsively, the people reading the alternate verses

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

The Epistle

Lector. A reading from Paul's first letter to the **Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector The word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to **Matthew 25:14-30**

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.

Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Celebrant. The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Dialogue Sermon: Everyone is to join the conversation. The Priest will offer some thoughts and listeners may respond with comments or questions.

The Creed or Affirmation of Faith

We believe in the God of life,	who
creates and loves people,	who acts in
history and who promises to never leave us alone.	
	We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,
who is our brother,	who wants not to be idolized but to be followed.
	We believe that we dwell in the presence of the Holy Spirit, Without
her we are nothing, filled with her we are able to become creative, loving and	free.
	We believe in the Church of Jesus Christ,
a community where we find companions and courage for the struggles of life,	
where we grow in our understanding of faith, through worship, prayer, nurture	
and service.	We believe that God has
a use for us in this time and place, that though we walk through the valley of the	
shadow of death,	we are called to be instruments of God's peace.
	We believe in living, hoping, laughing, and enjoying the good of the
earth;	We believe that

people can change and that God keeps pulling us to life and to a new world of joy and peace. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Lector reads the prayers, the people respond – Lord, hear our prayer.

The day of the Lord is soon upon us, a day not of wrath but of salvation. As children of the light and of the day, let us await the coming of the Lord in prayer on behalf of the human family around the word, saying: O God, for the sake of Christ, have mercy on us.

Let us pray for those who use their lips and lives to proclaim the good news of Christ, that they may persist in their zeal, empowered and emboldened through the gifts of your Spirit. O God, for the sake of Christ,
Have mercy on us.

Let us pray with joy and longing, for the return of the Messiah, that we may not grow weary in well-doing, but witness to the immediate and everlasting promise of our holy Redeemer. O God, for the sake of Christ,

Have mercy on us.

Let us pray for those whose lives are marked by hunger, need, grief and loneliness, anger and strife, discord and uncertainty, that each may be assured of the grace and mercy of God. O God, for the sake of Christ,
Have mercy on us.

Let us pray for those who suffer affliction of any kind, that God, their constant companion and champion, may grant them healing and hope and life. O God, for the sake of Christ.
Have mercy on us.

Let us pray for those among us and those in parishes who are prevented from praying together, that each may be convinced of the good news of Jesus Christ and respond with faith and commitment, understanding that we will be together soon when it is safe for all of us. O God, for the sake of Christ,
Have mercy on us.

Let us pray in our parish cycle of prayer for, Anne Jackson and her daughters, for Russell Keane, and Susan Kryczka and their families. O God, for the sake of Christ,
Have mercy on us.

[Here other intercessions may be offered.]

Because you are God, you hear our prayers. Because you are merciful, you promise to answer. We commend to you, merciful God, ourselves, and those for whom we pray, through the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. *Amen.*

The Priest says

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.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant. And now as let us pray as our Lord has taught us:

People

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.*

Communion Prayer in this time of Pandemic

Celebrant

Gracious God, we believe that you are present in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We love and remember all that you have done for us and for all of humanity. We cannot now receive you physically but ask that you come into our hearts spiritually. As though you have already come. Let us unite ourselves and one another to you in heart mind and spirit that we may never to be separated from you. *Amen.*

Closing Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

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 as yet unseen.
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing

Celebrant May the peace of the Lord which passes all understanding, keeps your hearts and minds in the knowledge of God and of his son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And may the Blessing of God Almighty, The Father and the son be with us all and ever more. Amen

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia Alleluia.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia Alleluia.

Thank you for joining us in prayer and witness today! Join us for virtual coffee hour and hymn singing following the Zoom recording on Saturdays at 5 p.m.