



“ARMED FORCES SUNDAY”

Sunday, May 17, 2020 9:00AM

Worship Service

INVOCATION

P *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

OPENING SENTENCES

P *Jesus said, “If you continue in my word you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”*

C **For freedom Christ has set us free.**

P *Stand fast, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.*

C **The truth shall make us free.**

P *You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters. Do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love be servants of one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*

C **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P *David writes in Psalm 34:*

Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.
Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.

P *Keeping those words in mind, let us come before our Lord, confess our sins, trusting in His abundant grace.*

C **Almighty Lord, we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words and actions. We have failed to keep our tongues from speaking evil. We have failed to do the good You demand. For the sake of Jesus, for the sake of Your steadfast love, have mercy on us and forgive us.**

P *God has shed his grace on us and sent his Son to be our Savior. For the sake of Jesus, who died and rose for us, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

C **We rejoice in his grace and favor and seek to live in that grace from this day forward and forevermore.**

PRAYER of the DAY

P *Almighty and Everlasting God, our fathers and mothers have told us of Your grace through Christ our*

Lord. We have learned of the salvation You won for all mankind when You sent Him to the cross and raised Him from the grave. Bless us to ever hear and retain this Word of grace, that we may share it with our children and our children's children, that they may ever be people who live in that grace as citizens of this fair land. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:16-20

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 9:8-12

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God .

P *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:10-19

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.*

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Then [Jesus] said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON

“Our Mighty Fortress”

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P *Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.*

Lord God, we give You thanks and praise for the new life and salvation with which You have brought beauty into our lives and our world again through the resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray that You open the ears of all who hear Your Word, that this salvation come to many in true repentance and faith, the gift of Your own Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Send Your Spirit mightily especially upon those called to preach, proclaim, and teach Your life-giving Word. Guide all pastors, teachers, and servants of the Church to be faithful in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *To all who bear the authority of government in our land, give Your blessing, that tranquility and peace rule our days. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *When suffering for Your truth comes our way, remind us of the certain victory that is ours by our Baptism into Christ. Give us the vision of Your mercy and grace, that we endure any opposition to the true faith. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Visit with Your peace and healing all who suffer illness, injury, or any painful difficulty, [especially . . .]. Let not their hearts be troubled or weighed down with any fear, but lift their eyes to Your sure and certain promises of eternal life and joy. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *With reverence and affection, we remember before You, O everlasting God, all our departed family and friends who have followed Christ and now are with Him in glory. By Your grace, keep us faithful and steadfast, that we see the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C **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
forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P *The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. Amen.*

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