



Sunday, October 5, 2025

Welcome & Opening Declaration

We have gathered in the name of Jesus Christ.

We have set aside this time to worship God together.

We have come to confess that Jesus is Lord.

We are here to tend to God's presence in and among us.

We praise and adore the living God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen

SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 19:9-17

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. You shall not strip your vineyard bare or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God.

"You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; and you shall not lie to one another. And you shall not swear falsely by my name, profaning the name of your God: I am the LORD. "You shall not defraud your neighbor; you shall not steal; and you shall not keep for yourself the wages of a laborer until morning. You shall not revile the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind; you shall fear your God: I am the LORD. "You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand idly by when the blood of your neighbor is at stake: I am the LORD. "You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself.

Romans 12:9-21

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SING TOGETHER

Responsive Reading: Psalm 10

Leader: Why, O Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? In arrogance the wicked persecute the poor—

All: Let them be caught in the schemes they have devised.

Leader: For the wicked boast of the desires of their heart; those greedy for gain curse and renounce the Lord. In the pride of their countenance the wicked say, "God will not seek it out"; all their thoughts are, "There is no God."

All: Their ways prosper at all times; as for their foes, they scoff at them.

Leader: They think in their heart, "We shall not be moved; throughout all generations we shall not meet adversity." Their mouths are filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under their tongues are mischief and iniquity.

All: They sit in ambush in the villages; in hiding places they murder the innocent.

Leader: They lurk in secret like a lion in its den; they lurk that they may seize the poor; they seize the poor and drag them off in their net. They stoop, they crouch, and the helpless fall by their might.

All: They think in their heart, "God has forgotten; he has hidden his face; he will never see it."

Leader: Rise up, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed. Why do the wicked renounce God and say in their hearts, "You will not call us to account"?

All: But you do see! Indeed, you note trouble and grief, that you may take it into your hands.

Leader: The helpless commit themselves to you; you have been the helper of the orphan. Break the arm of the wicked and evildoers; seek out their wickedness until you find none.

All: The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations shall perish from his land.

Leader: O Lord, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed—

All: So that those from earth may strike terror no more.

Amen and Amen.

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Blessing of the Children

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:38-48

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also, and if anyone wants to sue you and take your shirt, give your coat as well, and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.” You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven, for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

HOMILY

TIME OF RESPONSE

APOSTLES' CREED

**We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Officiant: Let us pray.

Heart, Community, and the World

Gracious Father, whose love extends even to the wicked, and who causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good: Grant us grace, as daily bread, to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us, releasing all forms of bitterness from our hearts, that we may be a beautiful signpost of the Father's mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who from the cross forgave those who crucified him, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gracious Son, who commanded your disciples to love their enemies and pray for their persecutors: Unite your Church here in the City of Philadelphia in the radical witness of turning the other cheek and going the second mile, that the world may see in our common life a love that transcends divineness and retaliation and reflects your perfect mercy and your fierce kindness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gracious Spirit, who alone can empower us to love as Christ commanded and transform the root of bitterness and self-preservation to tender mercy: Revive your Church with fresh fire, that we may astonish the world by blessing those who curse us and praying for those who persecute us. We pray your mercy against the violence that entraps us. Let us become a radiant community whose enemy-love bears witness to the transforming power of the gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with the Father and you, one God, lives and reigns forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

The Lord's Table

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

All honor and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the water made wine the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

In sharing this meal together, we share in the mystery of our faith..

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

SING TOGETHER

BENEDICTION

THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE TABLE PHILADELPHIA
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