



Sunday, November 2, 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

Isaiah 55: 1-13

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

James 5:1-11

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming on you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. Look! The wages you failed to pay the workers who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the innocent one, who was not opposing you.

Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the outcome that the Lord brought about, for the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

This is the word of the LORD

ALL: Thanks be to God

SING TOGETHER

PSALM 126 - Responsive Reading

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

All: Our mouths were filled with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy.

Leader: Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

All: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

Leader: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

All: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Leader: Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,

All: Shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

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

Mark 4:26-34

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come."

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

This is the word of the LORD

ALL: Thanks be to God

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, f

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 God, who scatters the seed of your word generously upon all: prepare the soil of our hearts to receive, with wonder, your truth with joy and depth, that we may not be like the path where the enemy snatches away what is sown, nor like the rocky ground where faith withers under trial, nor like the thorns where worldly anxieties choke out fruitfulness. We ask you gently break up the hardness within us, remove the stones of resistance, and clear away the brambles of distraction, that your word may take root deeply in our good hearts and our good bodies. Grant us patience to trust in the hidden work of growth, for your kingdom comes not by our striving but by mystery, starting small as a mustard seed yet growing to shelter all who seek refuge in you. Through Christ our Lord, who taught in parables that those with ears to hear might truly understand. **Amen.**

Gracious Son, who sowed the word of the kingdom and taught us through parables of seeds and soil: make us together a community of good and receptive hearts, ready to receive your gospel and bear fruit in abundance. We pray for our Table communities each with their own needs. Remove from these communities hardened paths of indifference, the rocky ground of self-protection, and the thorny distractions of worldly concerns that choke your word among us. Cultivate in our common life a renewed presence to you and one another, depth and richness of soil where your truth can take deep root, that we may grow together from the smallest seed of faith into a great shelter, offering shade and sanctuary to all who seek refuge in your kingdom. Through your grace, who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gracious Spirit, who breathes life into the scattered seed of the gospel and empowers it to bear fruit beyond all our imagination: break down hardened systems of injustice that oppress the vulnerable, shatter the rocky ground of inequality, and uproot the thorn bushes of greed and exploitation that choke abundant life from your people. Plant your kingdom in our city and in our world like a mustard seed, small and humble in its beginnings yet growing with irresistible power to shelter all who suffer under the weight of evil. Shield us from the enemy who seeks to snatch away hope, protect us from trials that

would scorch our resolve, and guard us against the anxieties that would distract us from your work of liberation. Make us good soil, receptive to your transforming power, that we may participate in the coming of your reign of justice and peace. Through Christ our Lord, in whose name every force of darkness must yield. 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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