



# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
Cockeysville-Hunt Valley, MD 21030

410-666-2180

sherwoodcockeysville.org

November 3, 2020

8 AM



*We welcome you this morning on the day of our Presidential Election. May the prayers and scripture that are read today be a balm for your spirit and the nation. As a people of faith, now more than ever, we must hold our nation and the world in prayer. Prayers for calm, for peace, for justice, for hope, for love, and the list goes on. Take these prayers with you as you go out into the world. Be Christ's light and shine brightly. I am so glad that you are with me this morning.*

*Peace to you and yours,  
Mother Nancy*

## **MORNING PRAYER - RITE II**

*Officiant:* Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Officiant:* Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Officiant:* 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.

*People:* **Amen.**

#### THE INVATORY AND THE PSALTER

*Officiant:* Lord, open our lips.

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

*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 for ever. Amen, Alleluia.**

*Officiant:* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: Come let us adore him.

#### VENITE

PSALM 95:1-7 (*said in unison*)

- 1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 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!

## PSALM 61

- 1 Hear my cry, O God, \*  
and listen to my prayer.
- 2 I call upon you from the ends of the earth  
with heaviness in my heart; \* set me upon the rock that is higher than I.
- 3 For you have been my refuge, \*  
a strong tower against the enemy.
- 4 I will dwell in your house for ever; \*  
I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.
- 5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; \*  
you have granted me the heritage of those who fear your Name.
- 6 Add length of days to the king's life; \*  
let his years extend over many generations.
- 7 Let him sit enthroned before God for ever; \*  
bid love and faithfulness watch over him.
- 8 So will I always sing the praise of your Name, \*  
and day by day I will fulfill my vows.

## PSALM 62

- 1 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
from him comes my salvation.
- 2 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.
- 3 How long will you assail me to crush me,  
all of you together, \*  
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?
- 4 They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor; \*  
lies are their chief delight.
- 5 They bless with their lips, \*  
but in their hearts they curse.
- 6 For God alone my soul in silence waits; \*  
truly, my hope is in him.

- 7 He alone is my rock and my salvation, \*  
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
- 8 In God is my safety and my honor; \*  
God is my strong rock and my refuge.
- 9 Put your trust in him always, O people, \*  
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.
- 10 Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, \*  
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.
- 11 On the scales they are lighter than a breath, \*  
all of them together.
- 12 Put no trust in extortion;  
in robbery take no empty pride; \*  
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.
- 13 God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, \*  
that power belongs to God.
- 14 Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, \*  
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

*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 for ever. Amen**

## THE LESSONS

### The First Lesson

*Reader:* A reading from the Book of Ecclesiasticus

Ecclesiasticus 43:1-22

### **The Splendor of the Sun**

The pride of the higher realms is the clear vault of the sky,  
as glorious to behold as the sight of the heavens.

The sun, when it appears, proclaims as it rises  
what a marvelous instrument it is, the work of the Most High.

At noon it parches the land,  
and who can withstand its burning heat?

A man tending a furnace works in burning heat,  
but three times as hot is the sun scorching the mountains;  
it breathes out fiery vapors,  
and its bright rays blind the eyes.  
Great is the Lord who made it;  
at his orders it hurries on its course.

### **The Splendor of the Moon**

It is the moon that marks the changing seasons,  
governing the times, their everlasting sign.  
From the moon comes the sign for festal days,  
a light that wanes when it completes its course.  
The new moon, as its name suggests, renews itself;  
how marvelous it is in this change,  
a beacon to the hosts on high,  
shining in the vault of the heavens!

### **The Glory of the Stars and the Rainbow**

The glory of the stars is the beauty of heaven,  
a glittering array in the heights of the Lord.  
On the orders of the Holy One they stand in their appointed places;  
they never relax in their watches.  
Look at the rainbow, and praise him who made it;  
it is exceedingly beautiful in its brightness.  
It encircles the sky with its glorious arc;  
the hands of the Most High have stretched it out.

### **The Marvels of Nature**

By his command he sends the driving snow  
and speeds the lightnings of his judgment.  
Therefore the storehouses are opened,  
and the clouds fly out like birds.  
In his majesty he gives the clouds their strength,  
and the hailstones are broken in pieces.

The voice of his thunder rebukes the earth;  
when he appears, the mountains shake.  
At his will the south wind blows;  
so do the storm from the north and the whirlwind.  
He scatters the snow like birds flying down,  
and its descent is like locusts alighting.  
The eye is dazzled by the beauty of its whiteness,  
and the mind is amazed as it falls.  
He pours frost over the earth like salt,  
and icicles form like pointed thorns.  
The cold north wind blows,  
and ice freezes on the water;  
it settles on every pool of water,  
and the water puts it on like a breastplate.  
He consumes the mountains and burns up the wilderness,  
and withers the tender grass like fire.  
A mist quickly heals all things;  
the falling dew gives refreshment from the heat.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

### CANTICLE 13

### A Song of Praise

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; \*  
you are worthy of praise; glory to you.  
Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; \*  
on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.  
Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; \*  
in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.  
Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

## The Second Lesson

*Reader:* A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them – do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

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

## CANTICLE 15

## The Song of Mary

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

*Officiant and People together, all standing:*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
I 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.  
I 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

*The People stand or kneel*

*Officiant:* The Lord be with you

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

*Officiant:* Let us pray...

*Officiant and 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.**

#### THE SUFFRAGES

*Officiant:* V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

*People:* R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

#### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

#### **A Collect for Peace**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our

enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A Collect for Guidance**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A Collect for an Election**

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **A Prayer for Mission**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of thy faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before thee for all members of thy holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### INTERCESSIONS

*Either silently or aloud please offer your intercessions and thanksgivings to God.  
There will be a moment of silence.*

*Officiant:* Let us pray.

### THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant and People:*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

#### CLOSING PRAYER

*Officiant:* Let us bless the Lord.

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

*Officiant:* Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.**