

# “Within these walls let no-one be a stranger”

August 9<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Call to Worship** *during which you are invited to light a candle*

From before the dawn of creation  
and after the end of time,  
You are God;  
**You are our God.**

Over all that lives and moves in earth, sea, and sky,  
over inert matter and dynamic energy,  
You are God;  
**You are our God.**

Of light and darkness,  
of height and depth,  
You are God,  
**You are our God.**

In faith and doubt, joy or sorrow,  
whether we are gathered or scattered,  
You are God.  
**You are our God and we bless You.**

**\* Hymn 149**

1. Let all creation dance  
in energies sublime,  
as order turns to chance,  
unfolding space and time:  
for nature's art  
in glory grows  
and newly shows  
God's mind and heart.

2 Our own amazing earth  
with sunlight, cloud and storms,  
and life's abundant growth  
in lovely shapes and forms  
is made for praise,  
a fragile whole,  
and from its soul  
heaven's music plays.

3. Lift heart and soul an voice:  
in Christ all praises meet,  
and nature shall rejoice  
as all is made complete.  
In hope be strong,  
all life befriend,  
and kindly tend  
creation's song.

**\* Prayer of approach** ending with the Lord's Prayer  
*(say in whichever language or version you prefer)*

## THE WORD OF GOD

**\* Children's address**

**\* Holy Scripture:** *Psalms 139: 1-12*

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

<sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.

<sup>3</sup>You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O LORD, you know it completely.

<sup>5</sup>You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

<sup>7</sup>Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

<sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

<sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

<sup>10</sup>even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.

<sup>11</sup>If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"

<sup>12</sup>even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.

\* **Sermon (part 1)**

\* **Music in Worship** *Ich folge dir gleichfalls mit freudigen Schritten* from *Johannes-Passion* - J.S Bach  
Judi Haynes-Smart, soprano; Kate Wareham, flute

\* **Holy Scripture:** *Luke 19: 1-10*

- 19 He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup> He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. <sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." <sup>6</sup> So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. <sup>7</sup> All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." <sup>8</sup> Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." <sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

\* **Sermon (part 2)**

**REPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn 97** ( a version of Psalm 139)

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|--|---|
| 1 O God, you search me and you know me,<br>all my thoughts lie open to your gaze.<br>When I walk or lie down you are before me<br>ever the maker and keeper of my days.    | 3 Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,<br>you have known its meaning through and through.<br>You are with me, beyond my understanding:<br>God of my present, my past and future, too. |
| 2 You know my resting and my rising,<br>you discern my purpose from afar,<br>and with love everlasting you besiege me;<br>in every moment of life or death, you are.       | 4 Although your Spirit is upon me,<br>still I search for shelter from your light.<br>There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:<br>even the darkness is radiant in your sight.       |
| 5 For you created me and shaped me,<br>gave me life within my mother's womb.<br>For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:<br>safe in your hands, all creation is made new. |   |

\* **Prayers of Intercession**

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

All things come from you  
**and of your own we give you -**  
our time, our treasure  
**and love without measure,**  
this day and forever,  
**Amen.**

\* **Hymn 577**

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|---|--|
| 1 Christ be beside you,<br>Christ be before you,<br>Christ be behind you,<br>King of your heart.<br>Christ be with you,<br>Christ be below you,<br>Christ be above you,<br>never to part.     | 2 Christ on your right hand,<br>Christ on your left hand,<br>Christ all around you,<br>shield in the strife.<br>Christ in your sleeping,<br>Christ in your sitting,<br>Christ in your rising,<br>light of your life. |
| 3 Christ be in all hearts<br>thinking about you,<br>Christ be in all tongues<br>telling of you.<br>Christ be the vision<br>in eyes that see you;<br>in ears that hear you,<br>Christ ever be. |  |

\* **Blessing**