

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

September 20th 2020

Prelude: Ach Gott und Herr, J.G. Walther

Call to Worship and Approach to God

As for mortals, their days are like grass;
they flourish like a flower of the field;
**for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.**

But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him,
**and his righteousness to children’s children,
to those who keep his covenant
and remember to do his commandments.**

Psalm 103:15-18

❖ **Hymn:** *the congregation are reminded please not to sing with their voices.*

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| 1. I to the hills will lift mine eyes,
from whence doth come mine aid.
My safety cometh from the Lord,
who heav’n and earth hath made. | 3. The Lord thee keeps, the Lord thy shade
on thy right hand doth stay.
The moon by night thee shall not smite,
nor yet the sun by day. |
| 2. Thy foot he’ll not let slide, nor will
he slumber that thee keeps.
Behold, he that keeps Israel,
he slumbers not, nor sleeps. | 4. The Lord shall keep they soul; he shall
preserve thee from all ill.
Henceforth thy going out and in
God keep forever will. |

❖ **Prayer of approach** (ending with the Lord’s Prayer)

(please say this in whichever language or version you prefer.)

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Word of God

❖ **Children’s address**

❖ **Holy Scripture:** Philippians 1:20-30

²⁰ It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. ²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

❖ **Music in worship:** *Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled*, Mark Dickey
Dean McHugh, tenor solo

❖ **Sermon:** *Followed by pause for reflection*

Response to God's Word

❖ **Hymn:**

1. Today, I live, but once shall come my death;
one day shall still my laughter and my crying,
bring to a halt my heartbeat and my breath:
Lord, give me faith for living and for dying.
2. How I shall die, or when, I do not know,
nor where, for endless is the world's horizon;
but save me, Lord, from thoughts that lay me low,
from morbid fears that freeze my powers of reason.
3. When earthly life shall close, as close it must,
let Jesus be my brother and my merit.
Let me without regret recall the past
then, Lord, into your hands commit my spirit.
4. Meanwhile I live and move and I am glad,
enjoy this life and all its interweaving;
each given day, as I take up the thread,
let love suggest my mode, my mood of living.

Prayers of Intercession

❖ **Music:** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, John Wyeth

❖ **Prayer of dedication**

Gracious God,
You give us life and all the blessings
of our days.

**We offer ourselves to you
in the service of life
in all its fullness for all.. Amen.**

❖ **Hymn:**

1. For me to live is Christ:
with him new life begins;
his loving touch renews my mind
and takes away my sins.
2. For me to live is Christ:
from him true living springs;
he comes, and with his radiant love
transforms all common things.
3. For me to live is Christ:
to serve is now my aim;
to help wherever there is need,
and care in Jesus' name.
4. For me to live is Christ:
In him my life I'll spend;
My strength, my aim, my hope, my Lord,
From now till my life's end.

Sending out with blessing

Postlude: Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort, D Buxtehude

Please remember to turn off your mobile phones.

Please remain in place until you are directed to leave the church.

*Please do not gather to socialise in the Begijnhof after the service, but
proceed to the Spui as quickly as possible. Thank you!*

The Scripture is read this morning by Laura Elliott; prayers of intercession are led by Jessica Lamming. Elders on duty are Laura Elliott, Elisabeth IJmker and Peggy Krol.

