

## January 1 Liturgy

Call to Worship - from Psalm 29

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD , you heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

**All: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness.**

Leader: The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD thunders over the mighty waters.

**All: The voice of the LORD twists the oaks  
and strips the forests bare,  
And in his temple all cry, "Glory!"**

Leader: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD is enthroned as King forever.

**All: The LORD gives strength to his people;  
the LORD blesses his people with peace.**

## Confession

Almighty and merciful Father,  
we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.  
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 justly deserve your present and eternal punishment.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us.  
Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

## Words of Forgiveness

Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

- Philippians 2:5b-8

Scripture Reading: Acts 1:1-14

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, **2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

**4** And while staying[a] with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.

**6** So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7** He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **9** And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, **11** and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

**12** Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. **13** And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. **14** All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

## Communion Litany

Minister: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts!

**All: We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Minister: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ,  
Your Son, our Lord.

He took upon himself the weight of our sin  
and carried the burden of our guilt.

He shared our life in every way,  
and though tempted, was sinless to the end.

Baptized as Your own, he went willingly to his death  
and by Your power was raised to new life.

**All: In his dying and rising,  
You gave birth to Your church,  
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.**

\*\* institution of elements \*\*

Minister: Sanctify this bread and wine, and use these elements  
to communicate to us the mercy of your Son,  
that we might be enabled to submit our lives to you.

**All: Grant that this sacrament would empower us  
to die to ourselves,  
and live for your glory, now and forever, amen.**

Minister: God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all,  
and will also give us all things with him.

**All: Therefore we praise you, God, with our hearts and our voices,  
now and forevermore. Amen.**

## Benediction

Minister: May Christ, who out of defeat  
brings new hope and a new future,  
fill you with his new life;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you,  
and remain with you always.

**All: Amen.**

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**