



Gathering Song

Daniel Gardner

My life is in you, Lord  
*Resurrection Choir*

My life is in you, Lord,  
My strength is in you, Lord,  
My hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.

My life is in you, Lord,  
My strength is in you, Lord,  
My hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.

I will praise you with all of my life,  
I will praise you with all of my strength,  
With all of my life, with all of my strength.  
All of my hope is in you.

My life is in you, Lord,  
My strength is in you, Lord,  
My hope is in you, Lord, in you, it's in you.

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Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## Collect of Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Hymn of Praise

Hymnal 1982 – 635

*Wer nur den lieben Gott*

If thou but trust in God to guide thee

*The Choir of All Saints'*

If thou but trust in God to guide thee,  
And hope in him through all thy ways,  
He'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee,  
And bear thee through the evil days.  
Who trust in God's unchanging love  
Builds on a rock that nought can move.

Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving;  
So do thine own part faithfully,  
And trust his word, though undeserving;  
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee;  
God never yet forsook in need  
The soul that trusted him indeed.

Words: Georg Neumark (1621-1681); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: *Wer nur den lieben Gott*, George Neumark (1621-1681) This selection in the public domain.

## The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lesson

### Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the

Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-8

*Officiant and People*

- 1 **To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
my God, I put my trust in you; \*  
let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**
- 2 **Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**
- 3 **Show me your ways, O Lord, \*  
and teach me your paths.**
- 4 **Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.**
- 5 **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*  
for they are from everlasting.**

**6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

**7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*  
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.**

**8 He guides the humble in doing right \*  
and teaches his way to the lowly.**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

### Matthew 21:23-32

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of

God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon

The Reverend Nancy L.J. Cox

The Nicene Creed

*Officiant and People*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## The Prayers of the People

From *Praying the Scriptures*, by Jeremiah D. Williamson

Leader: Brothers and sisters, in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Humbly then, let us approach our God, saying, “To will and work for your good pleasure, *O Lord, enable us.*”

Christ Jesus, strengthen our tongues to declare you as Lord of our lives. May we, your Church, glorify your Heavenly Father in word and deed. *Silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,  
People: **O Lord, enable us.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, you chose not to exploit your equality with God, but humbled yourself to be with us. Give us your heart for the marginalized and poor. And may all people especially those in

power, follow your example of humility. *Silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People: **O Lord, enable us.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, by your birth in human likeness you blessed all of creation. Remind us that your feet have trod our soil and tasted our waters. Give us the will to care for this precious planet. *Silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People: **O Lord, enable us.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, you rule the world with love and compassion. Give to our local leaders compassion and vision that the people of our region might live as neighbors, looking out for each other's interests. *Silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People: **O Lord, enable us.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, you became obedient to the point of death that we might have abundant life. Work marvels in the lives of the sick and sorrowful. May they recount to generations the wonderful deeds you have done in their lives. *The people are invited to add their petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People: **O Lord, enable us.**

Leader: Christ Jesus, through death and resurrection you were highly exalted by God. Continue your good work in those who now rest from their labors. May all the dead find new and lasting life in you. *Silence.*

To will and work for your good pleasure,

People: **O Lord, enable us.**



## Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

People: **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.**

## Absolution

Celebrant: 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. **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

*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 Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## The Blessing

## Closing Song

Karen Lafferty

Seek ye first  
*Carol Corbin, guitar*  
*Paul Davison, bass*  
*Brian Sapp-Moore, piano and voice*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
and its righteousness,  
and all these things shall be added unto you;  
Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask, and it shall be given unto you,  
seek, and ye shall find,

knock, and the door shall be opened unto you;  
Allelu, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Allelu, alleluia!

“Seek ye first”

words adapted from Mt. 6:33 and Mt. 7:7. music by Karen Lafferty

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Voluntary

Aaron David Miller

Trumpet Tune

*Brian Sapp-Moore, organ*

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## Prayers of the Parish

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Prayers have been requested for healthcare nurses: Sheri, Kristin, Christy, Laurie, and Diane. Prayers have been requested for: Kim, Geymi, Edwin, Jackie, Jan, Elizabeth, Norma, Frank, De, Janice, Bruce, Sharon, Rebecca, Regina, Sheila, and Vicky.

## Giving

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Thank you for continuing to give! You can mail your check, use the "bill pay" function of your mobile banking, give online by [clicking here](#), or use text giving. To give to the General Fund, text SAINTS to 73256. To give to the Assistance

Fund, text SAINTS ASSISTANCE to 73256. To give to the Memorial Fund, text SAINTS MEMORIAL to 73256. To give the Capital Campaign, text SAINTS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN to 73256. Mailing address is 525 Lake Concord Road NE, Concord, NC 28025.