

among us do not. A child understands that when they are given money to put in the offering plate, they put the money in the offering plate. They doesn't spend time pondering what else they might do with the money, because there will be resources for those other things. A child doesn't spend time worrying about what tomorrow will bring (except perhaps Christmas and birthday.) They let each day have its time. If we had the faith of a child, we would take comfort in the Words of Jesus. These are the things hidden from those who think everything comes from the sweat of our brow and the effort of our hands. Give because God has given, be generous because God is generous.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

⑩ O Lord of all power and grace, Your eyes are on the righteous and Your ears are open to their cry. Hear the prayer of Your people as we come to You now in thankfulness for the mercies which You pour down on us anew each day.

We thank You for Your gifts of mighty providence and the daily miracles of supplying the needs of all creatures, great and small. You open Your hand and give us what we need, in season and out of season. Make us mindful, O Lord, that You are the source of our daily bread, even as You provide us with life, breath and being.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we will produce the fruits of righteousness. May He endow us with unwavering faith, so that we are always ready to do Your will. Multiply grace, peace and all spiritual knowledge in Your Church. Raise up a ministry that will seek souls for salvation, willing to forsake all selfish concerns and follow Your Son wherever He leads. Give unity of heart and spirit to Your people, O God, and that they may inherit Your blessing and not come under Your judgment, let them manifest the Spirit of Christ in all things. Defend and preserve Your servants wherever they may be suffering for Your name's sake, and replenish them in faith, strength and courage by the grace of Your Son.

Hear, O Lord, when we cry unto You for the afflicted. Grant them help in body and soul, and save them for Your mercy's sake. As we are pilgrims in this world, guide and uphold us, and bring us all to our heavenly home.

Hear us as we bring to You our private petitions. (**Time of silent prayer.**)

Remind us that unless we are one nation under God, we are nothing. In the name of the Prince of Life, the One Who has taught us to obey, even Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

© Amen.

PROPER NINE

Chant Tone



Introit

He who dwells in the shelter of the
—Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the
Al—mighty.
I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and
my —fortress,*
my God, in | Whom I trust."

Because you have made the Lord your
| dwelling place*
the Most High, Who is my —refuge

no evil shall be allowed to be — fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy —Spirit;
as it was in the be — ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. — Amen.

He who dwells in the shelter of the
—Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the
Al—mighty.

(Antiphon, Psalm 91:1;
Psalm 91:2, 9-10)

Collect of the Day

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

Gradual

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and know | ledge of God!*
How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscruta | ble His ways!
For from Him and through Him and to Him | are all things.*
To Him be glory forever. — Amen.

(Romans 11:33, 36)

ENTRANCE PRAYER: Your steadfast Love, O Lord, never ceases, and Your mercies never come to an end. You are good to those who wait for You, and when we truly seek You, we find You. Therefore we sing Your praises and give thanks to Your Holy name. Your anger is for a moment and Your favor is for a lifetime. We need, O Lord, the power of Your Holy Spirit to enable us to give ourselves completely to You. Send us Your Spirit that we may experience the joy of a life dedicated to working in Your Love. Especially this day we ask that You would bless our nation with peace, and help our leaders govern in harmony with Your will. Amen (So be it, Lord.)

IN 1775 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CONVINCED THOMAS PAINE TO COME TO AMERICA TO HELP THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM. Franklin recognized that the independence movement needed someone who could express the philosophy of independence to people who still might feel ties to the mother country. The Englishman Paine, together with the diplomatic skill of Franklin, and the military skill of Washington, (and all the others) made for an unbeatable combination. God has come to live in us. He has come enlisting the power of the Holy Spirit and in the theology of Jesus Christ to make an unbeatable combination against sin in the world. God the Father, working in the power of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus defeated sin, threw off the power of Satan and has established us as a new people a federation known as Christians. We have been born anew as a people who cross boundaries and boarders for Heaven is our fatherland.

THEME OF THE DAY:

Rest For The Burdened

INTROIT—(Antiphon: Psalm 91:1;) Psalm 91:2, 9-10

Psalm 91 was written by King David. It is a song of encouragement. We sing of God our helper, our ever present counselor in the time of distress. He will lift us up.

COLLECT

There are times when sin, Satan and the world simply wear us out. We thank God that His mercy supports us in our salvation.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON—Zechariah 9:9-12

Zechariah means "Yahweh Remembers" (Yahweh=I Am=Name of God). God remembers His people and the covenant He established, claiming them as His people and declaring Himself to be their God. The people were returning from captivity to rebuild the temple. Zechariah was encouraging them in the work, for God had promised that the Savior, the Messiah would come to the temple. Chapter 9 is the beginning of a whole series of prophecy with the theme "The Advent of The King." In this case it is the Palm Sunday prophecy, the King will come on a donkey, not on a war horse to destroy us, but on a donkey to proclaim peace with God.

GRADUAL—Romans 11:33, 36

In Romans 11, Paul lamented the fact that the Jews reject Jesus and therefore salvation. These two verses sing praise to God that even in the face of all the unbelief on the part of the chosen people, we were chosen to believe.

EPISTLE LESSON—Romans 7:14-25a

One of the things we don't always comprehend is that we are trapped in our sinful flesh. Prisoners are often made to wear clearly identifying clothing. We are clearly identified as sinners by our flesh. Jesus came to live a perfect and righteous life in our flesh and thereby make our flesh acceptable to God. Paul was showing us the difference between the Law and sin. The Law is a good thing, it takes on a judgment role because of our sin. We struggle to do the Good will of God and instead discover that we serve the selfish desire of our flesh. It is when we take on the burden of the Law that we are made truly free. When we take on the whole meaning of Christ in our life then our sin is lifted and we discover the liberty and wonder of life in Christ.

GOSPEL LESSON—Matthew 11:25-30

Certain things have been hidden from the world. These are the things of independence from sin and the ability to live at peace with God. A child understands trust and faith, promise and wonder in ways that the mature