

Service for Noonday September 22, 2020

Hello and welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Altus, Oklahoma. We will use the service for Noonday found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 103. There is also a link to this document on the main page of our website: stpauls-altus.org. If you have a prayer request or desire to give thanks please type them in during the service, everyone will be able to see them.

Before we begin let us pause in silence as pray for the repose of the soul of Carol McElroy

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia

Let us read **Psalm 121 found on page 104**, together in unison (read from prayer book)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Reading From: 2 Timothy 4:1-5

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Commentary from Our Daily Bread

What a waste of time, thought Harley. Her insurance agent was insisting they meet again. Harley knew it would be yet another boring sales pitch, but she decided to make the most of it by looking for an opportunity to talk about her faith.

Noticing that the agent's eyebrows were tattooed, she hesitantly asked why and discovered that the woman did it because she felt it would bring her luck. Harley's question was a risky detour from a routine chat about finances, but it opened the door to a conversation about luck and faith, which gave her an opportunity to talk about why she relied on Jesus. That "wasted" hour turned out to be a divine appointment.

Jesus also took a risky detour. While traveling from Judea to Galilee, He went out of His way to speak to a Samaritan, something unthinkable for a Jew. Worse, she was an adulterous woman avoided even by other Samaritans. Yet He ended up having a conversation that led to the salvation of many (John 4:1–26, 39–42).

Are you meeting someone you don't really want to see? Do you keep bumping into a neighbor you normally avoid? The Bible reminds us to be always ready—"in season and out of season"—to share the good news (2 Timothy 4:2). Consider taking a "risky detour." Who knows, God may be giving you a divine opportunity to talk to someone about Him today!

Reflect & Pray

Whom might you meet today? How might there be an opportunity to talk about Jesus? How can you go out of your way to share the good news in a bold but loving, sensitive way?

The Prayers

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Lord, hear our prayer;

And let our cry come to you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family, St. Paul's. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Lord we ask for your blessing and guidance especially for our priest, Mother Suzanne.

We pray for healing for all who are affected by the Corona Virus, and safety for our health care workers and first responders.

Heavenly Father, Giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, those known and unknown to us, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their distress and have sure knowledge of your loving care through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

For those we Love

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to your never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Those Who Live Alone

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For those in the Armed Forces of our Country

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Pray for protection for people around the world who are vulnerable and being persecuted; pray for all law enforcement officers and firefighters. Pray for our country, our state, for our city of Altus; pray for our President and other leaders that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

We pray for The Episcopal Church, for our Presiding Bishop Michael, for our own Bishop Poulson.

For Social Justice: Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart (and especially the hearts of the people of this land), that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Ending

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.