

A Service of Secularization

Officiant: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Welcome and Introduction: The Rev. Canon Pam Mott

The Readings:

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14:9,22*

Jesus said, "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp to put it under a bucket, but on a lamp-stand where it gives light for everyone in the house. And you, like the lamp, must shed light among others, so that they may see the deeds you do, and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5:14-16*

It is not ourselves that we proclaim; we proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your servants, for Jesus' sake. For the same God who said, "Out of darkness let light shine," has caused his light to shine within us, to give the light of revelation—the revelation of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. *2 Corinthians 4:5-6*

Psalms 121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

The reading of the Bishop's Declaration of Secularization

The Prayers

Officiant: Let us pray.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord God, in your great goodness you once accepted to your honor and glory this building, now secularized: receive our praise and thanksgiving for the blessings, help, and comfort which you bestowed on your people in this place. Continue, we pray, your many mercies in your Church, that we may be conscious at all times of your unchanging love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Gracious Father, we pray for your Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. *Amen.*

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for our parish family. 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.*

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our prayers, and dispose the way of your servants toward the attainment of everlasting salvation; that among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Lord bless us and keep us. *Amen*

The Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious to us. *Amen.*

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. *Amen.*

The Exchange of the Peace