

MORNING PRAYER

Feast of St Eanswythe

8am, Sunday 13 September 2020

Welcome to this service of Morning Prayer, and thank you for joining us whether from near or far. Please add your voice and your prayers as we worship God together.

*The service of **Morning Prayer** has its roots in the daily pattern of prayer and worship in monastic communities. The liturgy draws richly on the scriptures: both in the appointed psalms and readings, and also in other songs (canticles) and responses. Today's pew sheet (see www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets) contains additional details and announcements for the parish this week.*

This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118.24

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

The Opening Canticle, A Song of Triumph (Venite)

O come, let us sing out to the Lord:
let us shout in triumph to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his face with thanksgiving:
and cry out to him joyfully in psalms.
For the Lord is a great God:
and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth:
and the peaks of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his and he made it:
his hands moulded dry land.
Come, let us worship and bow down:
and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is the Lord our God:
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
Today if only you would hear his voice:
'Do not harden your hearts as Israel did in the wilderness;
'When your forebears tested me:
put me to proof though they had seen my works.
'Forty years long I loathed that generation and said:
"It is a people who err in their hearts,
for they do not know my ways";
'Of whom I swore in my wrath:
"They shall not enter my rest."

Psalm 95

The Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
confident in God's forgiveness.
Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you 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.**

Psalm

I will bless the Lord continually: his praise shall be always in my mouth.

Let my soul boast of the Lord: the humble shall hear it and rejoice.

O praise the Lord with me: let us exalt his name together.

For I sought the Lord's help and he answered: and he freed me from all my fears.

Look towards him and be bright with joy: your faces shall not be ashamed.

Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me: and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him: and delivers them in their need.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: happy are they that hide in him!

Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones: for those who fear him never lack.

Lions may suffer want and go hungry: but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.

Come, my children, listen to me: and I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Which of you relishes life: wants time to enjoy good things?

Keep your tongue from evil: and your lips from telling lies.

Turn from evil and do good: seek peace and pursue it.

The eyes of God are on the righteous: and his ears towards their cry.

The Lord sets his face against wrongdoers: to root out their memory from the earth.

The righteous cry; the Lord hears it: and frees them from all their afflictions.

(34)

Send your holy angels
to watch over us, O God,
that on our lips will be found your truth
and in our hearts your love;
so we may ever taste your goodness
in the land of the living;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Reading from the First Testament (Hebrew Bible)

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The souls of those who do what is right are in God's hand. They won't feel the pain of torment. To those who don't know any better, it seems as if they have died. Their departure from this life was considered their misfortune. Their leaving us seemed to be their destruction, but in reality they are at peace. It may look to others as if they have been punished, but they have the hope of living forever. They were disciplined a little, but they will be rewarded with abundant good things, because God tested them and found that they deserve to be with him. He tested them like gold in the furnace; he accepted them like an entirely burned offering. Then, when the time comes for judgment, the godly will burst forth and run about like fiery sparks among dry straw. The godly will judge nations and hold power over peoples, even as the Lord will rule over them forever. Those who trust in the Lord will know the truth. Those who are faithful will always be with him in love. Favour and mercy belong to the holy ones. God watches over God's chosen ones.

(3.1-9; CEB)

Here ends the first reading.

Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise. Practise these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

(4.4-9; CEB)

Here ends the second reading.

The readings are followed by a short period of silence for reflection, then the response

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

The Canticle, The Song of Zechariah (Benedictus)

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
who has come to his people and set them free.
The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:
born of the house of his servant David.
Through the holy prophets, God promised of old:
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of
all who hate us,
To show mercy to our forebears:
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath God swore to our father
Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear:
holy and righteous before him, all the days of
our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the
Most High:
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his
way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation:
by the forgiveness of their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God:
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Luke 1.68–79

Sermon

*The Most Rev'd Dr Philip Freier
Archbishop of Melbourne*

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, by whose grace Eanswythe, kindled with the fire of your love, became a burning and a shining light in the Church: inflame us with the same spirit of discipline and love, that we may ever walk before you as children of light; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings.

The Morning Collect

Eternal God and Father,
by whose power we are created
and by whose love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live this day in love to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Conclusion

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Material in this service is taken from A Prayer Book for Australia (1995), Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005).