

MORNING PRAYER

Sunday 27 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 a third reading, set for today but not included in this service.*

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 Isaiah

'Behold, God is my salvation:

I will trust and will not be afraid;

'For the Lord God is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.'

With joy you will draw water:
from the wells of salvation.

On that day you will say:

'Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;

'Make known his deeds among the nations:
proclaim that his name is exalted.

'Sing God's praises, who has triumphed gloriously:
let this be known in all the world.

'Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion:
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.'

Isaiah 12.2-6

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

Give heed to my teaching, O my people: incline your
ears to the words of my mouth;

For I will open my mouth in a parable: and expound
the mysteries of former times.

What we have heard and known: what our forebears
have told us,

We will not hide from their children, but declare to a
generation yet to come: the praiseworthy acts of
the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.

For he did marvellous things in the sight of their
ancestors: in the land of Egypt, in the country of
Zoan.

He divided the sea and let them pass through: he
made the waters stand up in a heap.

In the daytime he led them with a cloud: and all night long with the light of fire.
 He cleft rocks in the wilderness: and gave them drink in abundance as from springs of water.
 He brought streams out of the rock: and caused the waters to flow down like rivers.
 But for all this they sinned yet more against him: and rebelled against the Most High in the desert.
 (78.1-4, 11-16)

God our shepherd, in all our wanderings and temptations, teach us to rest in your mercy and trust in your defence; through him who laid down his life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the First Testament (Hebrew Bible)

A reading from the book Exodus.

The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the LORD commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people argued with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, "Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the LORD?"

But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?"

So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me."

The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel's elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd's rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. I'll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink." Moses did so while Israel's elders watched. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites argued with and tested the LORD, asking, "Is the LORD really with us or not?"

(17.1-7; CEB)

Here ends the first reading.

Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus:

Though he was in the form of God,
 he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit.

But he emptied himself
 by taking the form of a slave
 and by becoming like human beings.

When he found himself in the form of a human,
 he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death,
 even death on a cross.

Therefore, God highly honoured him
 and gave him a name above all names,
 so that at the name of Jesus everyone
 in heaven, on earth, and under the earth
 might bow
 and every tongue confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of
 God the Father.

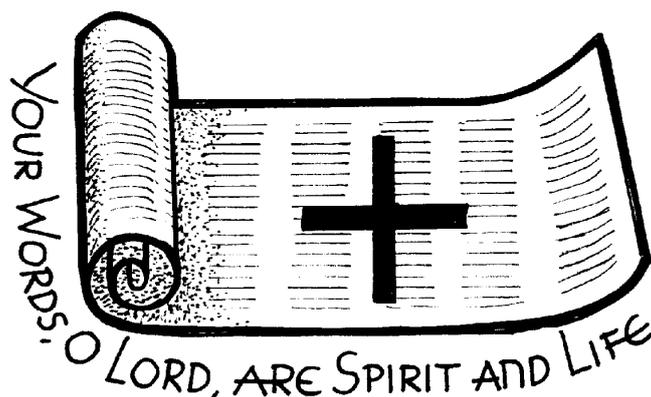
Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, carry out your own salvation with fear and trembling. God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out his good purposes.

(2.1-13; 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, A Song of God's Children

In Christ Jesus, the life-giving law of the Spirit: has set us free from the law of sin and death.

All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God: it is the Spirit that enables us to cry, 'Abba!' Father.

The Spirit bears witness that we are God's children: and if God's children, then heirs of God.

We are heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Christ: If we share his sufferings now we shall be glorified with him hereafter.

These sufferings that we now endure: are not worth comparing with the glory that shall be revealed.

For the creation waits with eager longing: for the revealing of the children of God.

Romans 8.2, 14, 15b-19

Sermon

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

Grant, O merciful God, that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant, and in humility became obedient even to death. For you have highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in everlasting glory. **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.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13.14

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