

MORNING PRAYER

Sunday 3 October 2021
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.

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.**

The Canticle, A Song of the Knowledge of Wisdom

O God of our ancestors and Lord of mercy:
you have made all things by your word.
By your wisdom you have formed us:
to have dominion over all your creation,
To be stewards of the world in holiness and
righteousness:
and to administer justice with an upright heart.
Give us Wisdom who sits by your throne:
do not refuse us a place among your servants,
For Wisdom knows your works:
and was present when you made the world.
She understands what is pleasing in your sight:
and what accords with your commandments.
Send her from the holy heavens:
from the throne of your glory bid her come,
That she may labour at our side:
and we may learn what is pleasing to you.
For she knows and understands all things:
and will guide us prudently in our actions
and protect us with her glory.

Wisdom 9.1-6, 9-11

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.

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 judgement for me, O Lord, for I have walked in
my integrity: I have trusted in the Lord and not
wavered.
Put me to the test, O Lord, and prove me: try my
mind and my heart.
For your steadfast love has been ever before my eyes:
and I have walked in your truth.

I have not sat with deceivers: nor consorted with the hypocrites;
 I hate the assembly of the wicked: I will not sit with the ungodly.
 I wash my hands in innocence, O Lord: that I may go about your altar,
 And lift up the voice of thanksgiving: to tell of all your marvellous works.
 Lord, I love the house of your habitation: and the place where your glory dwells.
 Do not sweep me away with sinners: nor my life with those that thirst for blood,
 In whose hand is abomination: and their right hand is full of bribes.
 As for me, I walk in my integrity: O ransom me and be favourable toward me.
 My foot stands on an even path: I will bless the Lord in the great congregation.

(26)

Have mercy on us and redeem us, O Lord,
 for our merits are your mercies
 and in your judgement is our salvation;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the First Testament (Hebrew Bible)

A reading from the book of Job

A man in the land of Uz was named Job. That man was honest, a person of absolute integrity; he feared God and avoided evil.

[...]

One day the divine beings came to present themselves before the LORD. The Adversary also came among them to present himself before the LORD. The LORD said to the Adversary, “Where have you come from?”

The Adversary answered the LORD, “From wandering throughout the earth.”

The LORD said to the Adversary, “Have you thought about my servant Job, for there is no one like him on earth, a man who is honest, who is of absolute integrity, who reveres God and avoids evil? He still holds on to his integrity, even though you incited me to ruin him for no reason.”

The Adversary responded to the LORD, “Skin for skin—people will give up everything they have in exchange for their lives. But stretch out your hand and strike his bones and flesh. Then he will definitely curse you to your face.”

The LORD answered the Adversary, “There he is—within your power; only preserve his life.”

The Adversary departed from the LORD’s presence and struck Job with severe sores from the sole of his foot to the top of his head. Job took a piece of broken pottery to scratch himself and sat down on a mound of ashes.

Job’s wife said to him, “Are you still clinging to your integrity? Curse God, and die.”

Job said to her, “You’re talking like a foolish woman. Will we receive good from God but not also receive bad?” In all this, Job didn’t sin with his lips.

(1.1, 2.1-10; CEB)

Here ends the first reading.

Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark

Jesus left that place and went beyond the Jordan and into the region of Judea. Crowds gathered around him again and, as usual, he taught them.

[...]

People were bringing children to Jesus so that he would bless them. But the disciples scolded them.

When Jesus saw this, he grew angry and said to them, “Allow the children to come to me. Don’t forbid them, because God’s kingdom belongs to people like these children. I assure you that whoever doesn’t welcome God’s kingdom like a child will never enter it.”

Then he hugged the children and blessed them.

(5.12-20; 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

O God, your Son has taught us that we must receive your sovereign rule like a little child: help us to turn to you in faith and simplicity of heart, so that we may receive your blessing, and enter the kingdom your Son has promised; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

concluding with the Parish Prayer:

**Creator Spirit, God beyond our knowing,
your love has been poured into our hearts.
Renew our trust in you,
and shape our lives to the call of Jesus,
our crucified and risen Lord.
Make us a people of blessing and hope,
so that neighbours and strangers may be drawn
to the compassion of Christ. Amen.**

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).