

Morning Prayer in Lent

Gathering

WE TURN OUR HEARTS TO GOD IN SILENT PRAYER & MEDITATION

LENTEN DIALOG

O Lord, open my lips!

And my mouth shall declare your praise!

Behold, now is the acceptable time, **day is the day of salvation!**

O Lord, I cry to you for help. **In the morning my prayer comes before you.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again, **and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, **and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

Behold, now is the acceptable time, **Today is the day of salvation!**

The Venite: O Come

Psalm 95

O come, let us sing unto the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise our joyful praise to God with psalms.**

For our God is a great God
and a ruler great above all gods.
**In God's hand are all the depths of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is our God's for he made it,
and God's hands prepared the dry land.
**O come, let us worship and fall down,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For God is our God,
**and we are the people of God's pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen

Responsive Psalmody Philippians 2

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
⁷**but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.**

And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
**and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.**

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹**and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Word

Silence for reflection follows each reading

READINGS

A READING from Jonah, the 2nd and 3rd chapters. (Jonah 4:1-10)

¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The Lord GOD appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

The reading ends here.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN:

¹²[Five days before the Passover] the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord - the King of Israel!”

¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

¹⁵“Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt!”

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first;

but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. The reading ends here.

We have been born anew

through the living and abiding word of God.

Gospel Canticle: *The Benedictus, the Song of Zachariah is read responsively*

Blessed are you, O Lord, God of Israel;

you have come to your people and set us free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior,
born of the house of your servant David.**

Through your holy prophets, you 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 your holy covenant.

This was the oath you swore to our ancestors Sarah and Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to worship you without fear,

holy and righteous in your sight, all the days of our lives.

And you, O child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare God’s way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of all 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.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning
and will be forever, world without end. Amen.**

Prayer

We join in prayers of intercession and thanksgiving. A time of silence follows each petition, and after ‘Here we may offer our prayers and petitions...’ for our own prayers. The prayers conclude with the Morning Collect and the Lord’s Prayer.

In Christ is wholeness and salvation: let us bring the needs of our lives,
our neighbor and our community to God.

Silence

Bring wholeness to those bowed down with suffering:
Bring healing to the sick, defend the poor and the powerless....
Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, have mercy!***

Give us strength to live the disciplines of Lent,
that we may grow in faith, love, and generosity...
Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, have mercy!***

In these Lenten days, teach us to forgive
To release anger, resentment and pain and find peace...
Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

In these Lenten days, guide us to pray for the good of those we love,
and those we don't... Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, hear our prayer***

In these Lenten days, strengthen us to give up and give away for the good of our soul
and the blessing of our neighbor.
Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Hear us O God, for the deepest needs of our hearts, for the needs of our neighbors, community
and world, as we bring them before you aloud in our own words, or in the silence of our
hearts... *Here we may offer our prayers and petitions.*
Holy One, hear our prayer: ***Lord, have mercy!***

The Collect of the Day is offered, then:

Almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us in safety to this new day.
Preserve us with your mighty power,
that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome in adversity.
In all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 glory,
Forever and ever, Amen!**

Blessing & Benediction

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Almighty and merciful God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve us. **Amen.**

May we keep a Holy Lent, walking in God's presence and peace.