

Morning Prayer Winter 2021

Gathering

The sign of the cross may be made in remembrance of our Baptism.

O Lord, + open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Blessed are you, creator of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
bringing light and life to all creation,
may we rejoice in this day you have made;
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God for ever.**

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.

Silence for Reflection

Psalm 76: A Song of God's Blessing

¹God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
²**That your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴**O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.**

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶**Then shall the earth bring forth her increase
and God, our own God, will bless us.**

⁷God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth shall fear our God.
As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

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

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us let the light of your love always shine in
our hearts, your Spirit ever renew our lives and your praises ever be on our lips, now and for
ever. **Amen.**

Silence for reflection

The Word

Hearing the Word is followed by a time for reflection and meditation.

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

Blessed are you, Adonai, 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, 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 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

We join in prayers of intercession and thanksgiving. A time of silence follows each petition for our own prayers. The prayers conclude with the Morning Collect and the Lord's Prayer.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the Word made flesh, our Emmanuel, whose incarnation makes every day new. In this new day we thank you:

For the gift of Gospel light, and the life-giving promises of new life, healing
and forgiveness . . .
for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .
for the gifts of relationship with others . . .
for the communion of faith in your church and sustaining us in these difficult times. . .

Merciful God renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace in the name of Jesus. Aloud or in the silence of our hearts we pray:

for those who govern nations of the world, especially those recently elected
and those who will continue in office...
for all who are weary of illness, unemployment and underemployment...
for the people who dwell in darkness, in the shadow of injustice, conflict and war...
for those working to alleviate suffering of body, mind and spirit,
especially in the current pandemic...
for all who strive to care for creation . . .
for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .
for those who feel lost or excluded or estranged from community or family,
that they may find a welcome...

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.**

**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 the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Blessing and Benediction

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