

September 13, 2020

Morning Prayer

Opening Sentence

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Psalm 43:3

Confession of Sin

Officiant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A brief period of silence may be kept.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all 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.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

All: **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. Alleluia!**

Jubilate *Psalm 100*

**Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands;
serve the LORD with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The LORD himself is God;
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
For the LORD is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

The Psalm

Psalm 103:8-1

The LORD is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our sins from us.

As a father cares for his children,
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

**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.**

The First Lesson

Romans 14:1-12

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in

honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: The Song of Mary

Magnificat

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior,
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.**

**From this day all generations will call me blessed:
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,
and holy is your name.**

**You have mercy on those who fear you
from generation to generation.**

**You have shown strength with your arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**

**You have filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.**

**You have come to the help of your servant Israel,
for you have remembered your promise of mercy,
The promise made to our forebears,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**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.**

The Second Lesson

Matthew 18:21-35

Reader: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

The Homily

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

Prayers and Intercessions

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Let us pray.

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Suffrages B

V. Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

R. **Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

V. Day by day we bless you;

R. **We praise your name for ever.**

V. Lord, keep us from all sin today;

R. **Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy.**

- V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;
R. **For we put our trust in you.**
V. In you, Lord, is our hope;
R. **And we shall never hope in vain.**

Prayers of the People

We pray this morning for God's people throughout the world, for peace and goodwill among nations, and for the well-being of all people. I invite your prayers for the Church and for the world either silently or aloud.

We pray for the Church of the Good Shepherd, for our families, friends, and neighbors, for those who are sick and suffering, and for all who have asked for our prayers, especially Kevin LeCount, Gary Blaettler, Paul Hoch, Chris Yetter, Monty Houlder, Sallie Houlder, Jill Bryan, Ann Sanders, Hal Miller, Wilma Miller, Ed Barnes, Carolyn Beard, Aileen Wood, Pete Taylor, Susanne Newton, Roy Wright, Jim Henley, Gina, David LaPasha, Ella Wood, Katherine Neighbors, Betsy Cheshire, Ryan Smith, Marie Williams, Ronnie Thompson, Ann Thompson, Nick Smith, John Murphy, Mike Elliott, Margaret Hatcher, Allison Zeiglmeier, Mike Webb, Mary Ann Boyd, Becky Lopez, Bill, Lynn, Debbie, Becky, Patti, Nolan, Daryl, Carson, Charlie, Laura & Ada Foushee, Bob Sawyer, Meredith Vance, Harry Johnson, Sr., Jim Lewis, Robbie Brake, Kelly McLeod Aldridge, Rae Dell Ghee, Allison Tysinger Bradt, Corey Bradt, Susan and Wendi.

We pray for all those in times of transition or uncertainty: for those expecting or welcoming a child, for teachers and students beginning a new school year, for those moving to a new city or a new home, for those who have lost their employment and those who are starting new jobs, for those facing eviction or financial hardship, and any whom we name now silently or aloud.

We pray for all those who work to provide healthcare, food, transport, and other essential services to their neighbors, and that we may never forget that our common life together depends on one another's toil.

We pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus, for those who have died and for those grieving the loss of loved ones. We commend to your loving care Bruce Barnes, and we ask you to surround her family with your loving care and comfort in the days ahead, together with all those we name now either silently or aloud.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God*

**God of all power and love,
we give thanks for your unfailing presence
and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss.
Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire.
Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world:
a people who pray, worship, learn,
break bread, share life, heal neighbors,
bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit.
Wherever and however we gather,
unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission,
that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**From Pentecost Sunday through the first Sunday in September, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton welcome congregations and individuals to pray "A Prayer for the Power of the Spirit among the People of God." This prayer – crafted by a team of Lutheran and Episcopal prayer leaders in light of the COVID pandemic – is meant to unite us in common prayer and revive us for common mission, wherever and however we may be gathered.*

The Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Dismissal

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The grace of our 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