

Daily Prayer

Eastertide

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

We enter into a time of quiet. We offer to God our selves and in the silence know that God embraces us as God's very own. We offer our hopes and our concerns through our prayers and in the silence listen for God. Today we hold in our prayers the ordinary moments in life—the trials and the joys.

We begin by saying

O Lord, open our lips.

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

let heaven and earth rejoice, Alleluia.

The First Reading

Then certain individuals came down from Judea and were teaching the brothers, 'Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.' And after Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them, Paul and Barnabas and some of the others were appointed to go up to Jerusalem to discuss this question with the apostles and the elders. So they were sent on their way by the church, and as they passed through both Phoenicia and Samaria, they reported the conversion of the Gentiles, and brought great joy to all the believers. When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and the elders, and they reported all

that God had done with them. But some believers who belonged to the sect of the Pharisees stood up and said, 'It is necessary for them to be circumcised and ordered to keep the law of Moses.'

The apostles and the elders met together to consider this matter.

Acts 15.1-6

The Psalm

I was glad when they said to me, ♦
 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
And now our feet are standing ♦
 within your gates, O Jerusalem;
Jerusalem, built as a city ♦
 that is at unity in itself.
Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, ♦
 as is decreed for Israel,
 to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
For there are set the thrones of judgement, ♦
 the thrones of the house of David.
O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ♦
 'May they prosper who love you.
'Peace be within your walls ♦
 and tranquillity within your palaces.'
For my kindred and companions' sake, ♦
 I will pray that peace be with you.
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, ♦
 I will seek to do you good.

Psalm 122

The Gospel Reading

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

John 15.1-8

In silence, we ask what the readings have to say to us today. Is there something that draws us more deeply into the reading? What does God have to say to us? What do we have to ask God?

The Reflection

When the time is right, we conclude our time of silence with the canticle

The Canticle ~ The Song of the New Creation

I will make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.

'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ♦
the Creator of Israel, your King.'

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ♦
a path in the mighty waters,

'Remember not the former things, ♦
nor consider the things of old.

'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ♦
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

'I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert, ♦
to give drink to my chosen people,

'The people whom I formed for myself, ♦
that they might declare my praise.'

Isaiah 43.15,16,18,19,20c,21

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.

*We continue in prayer for those people and situations that we hold up before God (The Intercessions)
and continue with the concluding collect, the Lord's prayer and the closing sentences.*

The Intercessions

With faith and love and in union with Christ,
let us offer our prayer before the throne of grace.
Have mercy on your people,
for whom your Son laid down his life:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations,
and have pity on those torn apart by division:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Strengthen all who are persecuted for your name's sake,
and deliver them from evil:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Look in mercy upon all who suffer,
and hear those who cry out in pain and desolation:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring comfort to the dying,
and gladden their hearts with the vision of your glory:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give rest to the departed
and bring them, with your saints, to glory everlasting:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us commend the world, for which Christ died,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Amen.

Our prayers conclude

God our guide,
your light shows us the path we should walk
and your love sustains us on the journey.
Be with us in the pilgrimage of our lives,
that in all moments of loneliness we would know your presence,
in all moments of uncertainty we would know your direction
and in all moments of pain we would know your peace,
through the one who came to walk alongside us as our friend,
even Jesus Christ our Lord.

[let us pray as our Saviour taught us,]

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

We conclude

May Christ our Saviour give us peace.

Amen.

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