

Daily Prayer

John Keble

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

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—and remember John Keble, Priest, 1866.

We begin by saying

O Lord, open our lips

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love;

according to your judgement give us life.

The First Reading

Then the LORD said to me: Faithless Israel has shown herself less guilty than false Judah. Go, and proclaim these words towards the north, and say:

Return, faithless Israel,
says the LORD.

I will not look on you in anger,
for I am merciful,

says the LORD;

I will not be angry for ever.

Only acknowledge your guilt,

that you have rebelled against the LORD your God,
and scattered your favours among strangers under every
green tree,

and have not obeyed my voice,
says the LORD.

Return, O faithless children,
says the LORD,
for I am your master;
I will take you, one from a city and two from a family,
and I will bring you to Zion.
I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with
knowledge and understanding.

Jeremiah 3.11-15

The Psalm

Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, ♦
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

As the hills stand about Jerusalem, ♦
so the Lord stands round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.

The sceptre of wickedness shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the righteous, ♦
lest the righteous turn their hands to evil.

Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, ♦
and to those who are true of heart.

Those who turn aside to crooked ways
the Lord shall take away with the evildoers; ♦
but let there be peace upon Israel.

Psalm 125

The Gospel Reading

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you

love me?' He said to him, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Tend my sheep.' He said to him the third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, 'Do you love me?' And he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.

John 21.15-17

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?

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

The Canticle ~ A Song of the Word of the Lord

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,
to our God, who will richly pardon.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, ♦
call upon him while he is near;

Let the wicked abandon their ways, ♦
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy; ♦
to our God, who will richly pardon.

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, ♦
neither are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, ♦
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

'As the rain and the snow come down from above, ♦
and return not again but water the earth,

'Bringing forth life and giving growth, ♦
seed for sowing and bread to eat,

'So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; ♦
it will not return to me fruitless,

'But it will accomplish that which I purpose, ♦
and succeed in the task I gave it.'

Isaiah 55.6-11

*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.*

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,
to our God, who will richly pardon.

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

The Intercessions

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.
For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church ...
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For the mission of the Church,
that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel
to the ends of the earth,
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For those preparing for baptism and confirmation...
and for their teachers and sponsors,
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For peace in the world ...
that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow
among nations and peoples,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer ...
for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger;
that they may be relieved and protected,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For those whom we have injured or offended,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God,
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of
holiness ...
let us pray to the Father.
Lord of compassion,
in your mercy hear us.

God our Father,
in your love and goodness
you have taught us to come close to you in penitence
with prayer, fasting and generosity;
accept our Lenten discipline,

and when we fall by our weakness,
raise us up by your unfailing mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Our prayers conclude

O God our Hope and Strength,
grant us in all time of our testing
to know your presence and to obey your will;
that following the example of your servant John Keble,
we may accomplish with integrity what you give us to do
and endure with the courage of love
what you give us to bear;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

[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 God bless us and show us compassion and mercy

Amen.

John Keble

Priest, 1866 — Commemoration

Today we honour John Keble, an English priest who helped to inspire the nineteenth century revival of Anglicanism known as the Oxford Movement. Born in 1792, the dutiful son of a country parson, Keble bore steadfast witness to the “high church” tradition, which looked back through the spiritual leaders of seventeenth century Anglicanism to the faith and order of Christian antiquity. This outlook made him distrust the modern world and bear stern witness against rationalism in studying the mysteries of faith. Keble was also a man of deep and constant prayer, and his spiritual strength brought to his door a number of younger Oxford dons who sought direction. They picked up on his other concerns, and gave them contemporary force in the Oxford Movement, which began in 1833. Keble supported the work of his disciples, but remained somewhat distant from its early success. In the end several of the Movement's leaders went over to Rome and, though grieved by the separation of his friends, he was not shaken in his commitment to the Anglican way. He later came to believe that the Movement had lost its spiritual bearings when its leaders focussed on winning power and influence, and let popularity become the standard by which they judged the righteousness of their cause. For himself, he wrote: “I had always been taught that the truth must be unpopular and despised, and to make confession of it was all one could do.” This sense of bearing witness against the world in its power remained with him until his death on this date, Maundy Thursday in 1866.

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Biographical Information: For All the Saints © 2007, General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada

Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor Street West Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

416.922.4948

office@theredeemer.ca

www.TheRedeemer.ca

Twitter: @theRedeemerTO

Facebook: theRedeemerTO

Instagram: theRedeemerTO