

Daily Prayer

Wednesday in Easter Week

Wednesday, April 12, 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.

We begin by saying

O Lord, open our lips

and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Let your ways be known upon earth,

your saving power among the nations.

The First Reading

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, 'Look at us.' And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, 'I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk.' And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask

for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Acts 3.1-10

The Psalm

O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; ♦
make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises, ♦
and tell of all his marvellous works.

Rejoice in the praise of his holy name; ♦
let the hearts of them rejoice who seek the Lord.

Seek the Lord and his strength; ♦
seek his face continually.

Remember the marvels he has done, ♦
his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,

O seed of Abraham his servant, ♦
O children of Jacob his chosen.

He is the Lord our God; ♦
his judgements are in all the earth.

He has always been mindful of his covenant, ♦
the promise that he made for a thousand generations:

The covenant he made with Abraham, ♦
the oath that he swore to Isaac,

Psalm 105.1-9

The Gospel Reading

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, 'What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?' They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?' He asked them, 'What things?' They replied, 'The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.' Then he said to them, 'Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?' Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly

over.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Luke 24.13-35

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 ~ The Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.
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.

Luke 1.68-79

*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 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 Lord Jesus Christ,
through your rising again hope as been renewed,
joy has been restored
and life has been re-created for this whole world.
Give us grace in this season of celebration
to rise to you in our hearts,
that with prayer and song we may re-echo
that hymn of joy which your Easter began,
O 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, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

Amen.

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