

Daily Prayer

Easter Feria

Wednesday, May 24, 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

Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is

more blessed to give than to receive." '

When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

Acts 20.28-38

The Psalm

For your temple's sake in Jerusalem ♦
kings shall bring their gifts to you.

Drive back with your word the wild beast of the reeds, ♦
the herd of the bull-like, the brutish hordes.

Trample down those who lust after silver; ♦
scatter the peoples that delight in war.

Vessels of bronze shall be brought from Egypt; ♦
Ethiopia will stretch out her hands to God.

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ♦
make music in praise of the Lord;

He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ♦
and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ♦
whose power is above the clouds.

How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ♦
the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his
people!

Blessed be God.

Psalm 68.28-36

The Gospel Reading

And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

John 17.11b-19

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 Deliverance

All the earth, shout and sing for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One.

'Behold, God is my salvation; ♦

I will trust and will not be afraid;

'For the Lord God is my strength and my song, ♦
and has become my salvation.'

With joy you will draw water ♦
from the wells of salvation.

On that day you will say, ♦

'Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;

'Make known his deeds among the nations, ♦
proclaim that his name is exalted.

'Sing God's praises, who has triumphed gloriously; ♦
let this be known in all the world.

'Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion, ♦
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 12.2-6

*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.*

All the earth, shout and sing for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One.

*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

In peace, let us pray to Jesus our Lord,
who ever lives to make intercession for us.

Saviour of the world,

be present in all places of suffering, violence and pain,
and bring hope even in the darkest night.

Inspire us to continue your work of reconciliation today.

In peace we pray.

Lord of the Church,
empower by your Spirit the work of your Church in every land.
Give us grace to proclaim the gospel joyfully in word and deed.
In peace we pray.

Shepherd and Guardian of our souls,
guide and enable all who lead and serve this community
and those on whom we depend for our daily needs.
Grant that we may seek the peace and welfare of this place.
In peace we pray.

Great Physician,
stretch out your hand to bring comfort, wholeness and peace
to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.
Fill us with compassion, that we may be channels of your healing
love.
In peace we pray.

Conqueror of death,
remember for good those whom we love but see no longer.
Help us to live this day in the sure and certain hope of your eternal
victory.
In peace we pray.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God. Amen

Our prayers conclude

God of all,
your being is love
and your desire is for us to grow in relationship with you.
Bless us on our journey,
that as we glorify you in praise and seek you in stillness
we may come to know you as the end of all our striving

and come to experience you as our faithful companion on the way,
through 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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The Collect: The Canterbury Book of New Parish Prayers, M. J. Kramer © 2021, Canterbury Press

The Concluding Sentence: Common Worship: Daily Prayer © The Archbishops' Council 2005 and published by Church House Publishing.

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