

Daily Prayer

Feria

Wednesday, August 9, 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 God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

The First Reading

The LORD said to Moses, 'Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites; from each of their ancestral tribes you shall send a man, every one a leader among them.'

At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the Israelites in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, 'We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites live in the land of the Negeb; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea, and along the Jordan.'

But Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, 'Let us go up

at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.' Then the men who had gone up with him said, 'We are not able to go up against this people, for they are stronger than we are.' So they brought to the Israelites an unfavourable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, 'The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are of great size. There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.'

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night.

Numbers 13.1-2, 25-14.1

The Psalm

We have sinned like our forebears; ♦
we have done wrong and dealt wickedly.

In Egypt they did not consider your wonders,
nor remember the abundance of your faithful love; ♦
they rebelled against the Most High at the Red Sea.

But he saved them for his name's sake, ♦
that he might make his power to be known.

He rebuked the Red Sea and it was dried up; ♦
so he led them through the deep as through the
wilderness.

He saved them from the adversary's hand ♦
and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

As for those that troubled them, the waters overwhelmed
them; ♦
there was not one of them left.

Then they believed his words ♦
and sang aloud his praise.

But soon they forgot his deeds ♦
and would not wait for his counsel.

A craving seized them in the wilderness, ♦
and they put God to the test in the desert.

They forgot God their saviour, ♦
who had done such great things in Egypt,

Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham ♦
and fearful things at the Red Sea.

So he would have destroyed them,
had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, ♦
to turn away his wrath from consuming them.

Psalm 106.6-14, 21-23

The Gospel Reading

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Matthew 15.21-28

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 Wisdom

Send Wisdom forth from your holy heavens;
from the throne of your glory
send what is pleasing to you.

O God of our ancestors and Lord of mercy, ♦
you have made all things by your word.

By your wisdom you have formed us ♦
to have dominion over the creatures you have made;

To rule the world in holiness and righteousness ♦
and to pronounce judgement in uprightness of soul.

Give us the Wisdom that sits by your throne; ♦
do not reject us from among your servants,

For we are your servants, ♦
with little understanding of judgement and laws.

Even one who is perfect among us ♦
will be regarded as nothing
without the wisdom that comes from you.

With you is Wisdom, she who knows your works, ♦
and was present when you made the world.

She understands what is pleasing in your sight ♦
and what is right according to your commandments.

Send her forth from the holy heavens, ♦
from the throne of your glory send her.

That she may labour at our side ♦
and that we may learn what is pleasing to you.

For she knows and understands all things, ♦
she will guide us wisely in our actions
and guard us with her glory.

Wisdom 9.1-5a,c,6,9-11

*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.*

Send Wisdom forth from your holy heavens;
from the throne of your glory
send what is pleasing to you.

*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 eternity,
whose salvation is known from generation to generation,
bless those who seek you this day,
that by discovering more of your truth
we may learn more deeply the meaning of love,
and by imitating the example of your Son
we may know the fulfilment that is found in serving others
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 God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.

Amen.

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