

Daily Prayer

Feria

Wednesday, July 5 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

Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, 'Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.' The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, 'Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named after you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.' So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread

and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, 'Do not let me look on the death of the child.' And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, 'What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.' Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow.

Genesis 21.5, 8-20

The Psalm

I will bless the Lord at all times; ♦
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

My soul shall glory in the Lord; ♦
let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me; ♦
let us exalt his name together.

I sought the Lord and he answered me ♦
and delivered me from all my fears.

Look upon him and be radiant ♦
and your faces shall not be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me ♦
and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him ♦
and delivers them.

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious; ♦
blessed is the one who trusts in him.

Psalm 34.1-8

The Gospel Reading

When Jesus came to the other side, to the country of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs coming out of the tombs met him. They were so fierce that no one could pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, 'What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?' Now a large herd of swine was feeding at some distance from them. The demons begged him, 'If you cast us out, send us into the herd of swine.' And he said to them, 'Go!' So they came out and entered the swine; and suddenly, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and perished in the water. The swineherds ran off, and on going into the town, they told the whole story about what had happened to the demoniacs. Then the whole town came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighbourhood.

Matthew 8.28-34

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 all,
who gave us hearts to love you,
lips to praise you
and lives to follow you,
direct us in all that we do,
that we may come to know you in prayer,
glorify you in worship
and serve you in action,
this and every day,
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.

Credits:

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