

Daily Prayer

St Luke the Evangelist

Wednesday, October 18, 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

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.

2 Timothy 4.5-13

The Psalm

Alleluia.

How good it is to make music for our God, ♦
how joyful to honour him with praise.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem ♦
and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted ♦
and binds up all their wounds.

He counts the number of the stars ♦
and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; ♦
his wisdom is beyond all telling.

The Lord lifts up the poor, ♦
but casts down the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; ♦
make music to our God upon the lyre;

Psalm 147.1-7

The Gospel Reading

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'
And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat
down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he
began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your
hearing.'

Luke 4.14-21

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 ~ Benedicite—A Song of Creation

Bless the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord all you works of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord you heavens: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord you angels of the Lord: ♦
bless the Lord all you his hosts;

bless the Lord you waters above the heavens: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord sun and moon: ♦
bless the Lord you stars of heaven;

bless the Lord all rain and dew: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord all winds that blow: ♦
bless the Lord you fire and heat;

bless the Lord scorching wind and bitter cold: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord dews and falling snows: ♦
bless the Lord you nights and days;

bless the Lord light and darkness: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord frost and cold: ♦
bless the Lord you ice and snow;

bless the Lord lightnings and clouds: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

O let the earth bless the Lord: ♦
bless the Lord you mountains and hills;

bless the Lord all that grows in the ground: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord you springs: ♦
bless the Lord you seas and rivers;

bless the Lord you whales and all that swim in the waters: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

Bless the Lord all birds of the air: ♦
bless the Lord you beasts and cattle;

bless the Lord all people on earth: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

O people of God bless the Lord: ♦
bless the Lord you priests of the Lord;
bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: ♦
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.
Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: ♦
bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.

The Song of the Three 35-65

*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.*

Bless the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
sing his praise and exalt him for ever.

*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

Almighty God,
who inspired Luke the physician
to proclaim the love and healing power of your Son,
give your Church, by the grace of the Spirit
and the medicine of the gospel,
the same love and power to heal;
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 grant to the world justice, truth and peace.
Amen.

St Luke the Evangelist

Holy Day

Luke is mentioned three times in the Letters of Saint Paul, once as “the beloved physician,” but the Church remembers him chiefly as the author of two books which came to be included in the New Testament.

The first book is the one we know as the Gospel according to Luke, where he told the story of Jesus, his preaching and mighty work in the border-country of Galilee, his suffering, death and resurrection at the very heart of Israel, in Jerusalem itself. The second of Luke’s two books is the Acts of the Apostles.

In this work he told how the good news was spread: how the apostles began their preaching at Jerusalem and moved westwards with the gospel until they reached the very centre of the Roman empire, the city of Rome itself. Thus, in these two books, Luke presented a comprehensive history of the gospel in terms of a journey from the hinterland of Judea to the heartland of imperial power and civilization.

We offer thanks to God for bestowing such gifts of understanding and literary skill on Luke, and we celebrate Luke himself because he responded so faithfully to the working of grace. But still, we remember the story-teller for the story that he told; and that story is the Lord’s story. So, on this his day, we can honour Saint Luke no more highly than by joining in the telling of that story, which God gave him power to give us; that story which is the praise of God through Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit.

Credits:

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