

# Daily Prayer

## *Easter Feria*

*Wednesday, April 10, 2024*

*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.**

In your resurrection, O Christ,

**let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.**

### **The First Reading**

Then the high priest took action; he and all who were with him (that is, the sect of the Sadducees), being filled with jealousy, arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors, brought them out, and said, 'Go, stand in the temple and tell the people the whole message about this life.' When they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and went on with their teaching.

When the high priest and those with him arrived, they called together the council and the whole body of the elders of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the temple police went there, they did not find them in the prison; so they returned and reported, 'We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them, we found no one inside.' Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were perplexed about them,

wondering what might be going on. Then someone arrived and announced, 'Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!' Then the captain went with the temple police and brought them, but without violence, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

*Acts 5.17-26*

## **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

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'

*John 3.16-21*

*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 ~

### Benedictus (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.*

*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

We pray to Jesus who is present with us to eternity.  
Jesus, light of the world,  
bring the light and peace of your gospel to the nations ...  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, bread of life,  
give food to the hungry ...  
and nourish us all with your word.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, our way, our truth, our life,  
be with us and all who follow you in the way ...  
Deepen our appreciation of your truth  
and fill us with your life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, Good Shepherd who gave your life for the sheep,  
recover the straggler,  
bind up the injured,  
strengthen the sick  
and lead the healthy and strong to new pastures.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, the resurrection and the life,  
we give you thanks for all who have lived and believed in you ...  
Raise us with them to eternal life.  
Jesus, Lord of life,  
in your mercy, hear us,  
accept our prayers, and be with us always.  
Amen.

*Our prayers conclude*

God of Creation,  
in love you brought this world into being  
and in mercy you called it to new life in your Son;  
bless Christians throughout the world  
as we celebrate this Easter Feast,  
that it may be for us  
a season of encouragement,  
a time of thanksgiving  
and an inspiration to bring the gospel to others,  
through the same 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 the risen Christ grant us the joy of eternal life.

**Amen.**



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