

Daily Prayer

Wednesday in Holy Week

Wednesday, March 27, 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.

Let your ways be known upon earth,,
your saving power among the nations.

The First Reading

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backwards.
I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.
The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?
All of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Isaiah 50.4-9a

The Psalm

O God, make speed to save me; ♦
O Lord, make haste to help me.
Let those who seek my life
be put to shame and confusion; ♦
let them be turned back and disgraced
who wish me evil.
Let those who mock and deride me ♦
turn back because of their shame.
But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; ♦
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the
Lord!'
As for me, I am poor and needy; ♦
come to me quickly, O God.
You are my help and my deliverer; ♦
O Lord, do not delay.

Psalm 70

The Gospel Reading

Jesus was troubled in spirit, and declared, 'Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me.' The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he was speaking. One of his disciples—the one whom Jesus loved—was reclining next to him; Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. So while reclining next to Jesus, he asked him, 'Lord, who is it?' Jesus answered, 'It is the one to whom I give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.' So when he had dipped the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas son of Simon Iscariot. After he received the piece of bread, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, 'Do quickly what you are going to do.' Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. Some thought that, because Judas had the common purse, Jesus was telling him, 'Buy what we need for the festival'; or, that he should give something to the poor. So, after receiving the piece of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

John 13.21-32

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 the Lord's Glorious Deeds

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.

Who is this that comes from Edom, ♦
coming from Bozrah, his garments stained crimson?

Who is this in glorious apparel, ♦
marching in the greatness of his strength?

'It is I, who announce that right has won the day, ♦
it is I,' says the Lord, 'for I am mighty to save.'

Why are your robes all red, O Lord, ♦
and your garments like theirs who tread the winepress?

'I have trodden the winepress alone, ♦
and from the peoples no one was with me.'

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, ♦
the praises of the Most High;

All that God has done for us in his mercy, ♦
by his many acts of love.

For God said, 'Surely, they are my people,
my children who will not deal falsely,' ♦
and he became their Saviour in all their distress.

So God redeemed them by his love and pity; ♦
he lifted them up and carried them
through all the days of old.

Isaiah 63.1-3a,7-9

*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.

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.

*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

Let us bring to the Father our prayers of intercession
through Christ who gave himself for the life of the world.
For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean
spiritual death,
and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For Christian people,
that through the suffering of disunity
there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them,
that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
feel that God is far from them,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.
Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us.

Our prayers conclude

Friend of sinners,
hope of betrayer and betrayed,
be with all those whose relationships have broken down,
those whose capacity to trust has been wounded
by the acts of others

and those who, in despair, feel no longer able to trust themselves.
Help them to know your fidelity in the midst of their sufferings,
and grant that those who have been hurt
might learn to trust others again,
and that those who have done injury
might learn for themselves and others
the compassion for all humanity that is glimpsed
in the suffering face of 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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