

Daily Prayer

Easter Feria

Wednesday, May 15, 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

Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." '

When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

Acts 20.28-38

The Psalm

Send forth your strength, O God; ♦
establish, O God, what you have wrought in us.

For your temple's sake in Jerusalem ♦
kings shall bring their gifts to you.

Drive back with your word the wild beast of the reeds, ♦
the herd of the bull-like, the brutish hordes.

Trample down those who lust after silver; ♦
scatter the peoples that delight in war.

Vessels of bronze shall be brought from Egypt; ♦
Ethiopia will stretch out her hands to God.

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; ♦
make music in praise of the Lord;

He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens ♦
and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, ♦
whose power is above the clouds.

How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, ♦
the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his
people!

Blessed be God.

Psalm 68.28-36

The Gospel Reading

Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

John 17.11b-19

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 New Creation

I will make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.

'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ♦
the Creator of Israel, your King.'

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ♦
a path in the mighty waters,

'Remember not the former things, ♦
nor consider the things of old.
'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ♦
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
'I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert, ♦
to give drink to my chosen people,
'The people whom I formed for myself, ♦
that they might declare my praise.'

Isaiah 43.15, 16, 18, 19, 20c, 21

*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 make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.

*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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