

# Daily Prayer

*Feria*

*Wednesday, October 16, 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.**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,

**and teach me your paths.**

## The First Reading

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

*Galatians 5.16-25*

## The Psalm

Blessed are they who have not walked  
in the counsel of the wicked, ♦  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

Their delight is in the law of the Lord ♦  
and they meditate on his law day and night.

Like a tree planted by streams of water  
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither, ♦  
whatever they do, it shall prosper.

As for the wicked, it is not so with them; ♦  
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the  
judgement, ♦  
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, ♦  
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

*Psalm 1*

## The Gospel Reading

'But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds, and neglect justice and the love of God; it is these you ought to have practised, without neglecting the others. Woe to you Pharisees! For you love to have the seat of honour in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the market-places. Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it.'

One of the lawyers answered him, 'Teacher, when you say these

things, you insult us too.' And he said, 'Woe also to you lawyers! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them.

*Luke 11.42-46*

*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 ~ Song of the Word of the Lord**

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, ♦  
call upon him while he is near;

Let the wicked abandon their ways, ♦  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy; ♦  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, ♦  
neither are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, ♦  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

'As the rain and the snow come down from above, ♦  
and return not again but water the earth,

'Bringing forth life and giving growth, ♦  
seed for sowing and bread to eat,

'So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; ♦  
it will not return to me fruitless,

'But it will accomplish that which I purpose, ♦  
and succeed in the task I gave it.'

*Isaiah 55.6-11*

*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.*

Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

*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 offer our prayers to God for the life of the world  
and for all God's people in their daily life and work.  
God, the beginning and end of all things,  
in your providence and care  
you watch unceasingly over all creation;  
we offer our prayers  
that in us and in all your people your will may be done,  
according to your wise and loving purpose in Christ our Lord.  
Lord of all life:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for all through whom we receive sustenance and life;  
for farmers and agricultural workers,  
for packers, distributors and company boards;  
as you have so ordered our life that we depend upon each other,  
enable us by your grace to seek the well-being of others before  
our own.

Lord of all creation:

**hear our prayer**

We pray for all engaged in research to safeguard crops against disease,

and to produce abundant life among those who hunger and whose lives are at risk.

Prosper the work of their hands

and the searching of their minds,

that their labour may be for the welfare of all.

Lord of all wisdom:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for governments and aid agencies,

and those areas of the world where there is disaster, drought and starvation.

By the grace of your Spirit,

touch our hearts

and the hearts of all who live in comfortable plenty,

and make us wise stewards of your gifts.

Lord of all justice:

**hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are ill,

remembering those in hospital and nursing homes

and all who are known to us.

We pray for all who care for them.

Give skill and understanding

to all who work for their well-being.

Lord of all compassion:

**hear our prayer.**

We remember those who have died,

whom we entrust to your eternal love

in the hope of resurrection to new life.

Lord of all peace:

**hear our prayer.**

We offer ourselves to your service,  
asking that by the Spirit at work in us  
others may receive a rich harvest of love and joy and peace.

Lord of all faithfulness:

**hear our prayer.**

God of grace,  
as you are ever at work in your creation,  
so fulfil your wise and loving purpose in us  
and in all for whom we pray,  
that with them and in all that you have made,  
your glory may be revealed  
and the whole earth give praise to you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Our prayers conclude*

God our Father,  
who looked on the world in love  
and brought us healing and truth in your Son,  
dispel from our hearts the darkness of violence  
and the cloudedness of indifference,  
that we would shine as lights  
in lives of integrity, words of encouragement and communities of  
hope,  
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 God grant to the world justice, peace and truth.

**Amen.**

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