

Daily Prayer

Feria

Wednesday, July 30, 2025

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

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out, and when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with him.

Exodus 34.29-35

The Psalm

The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble; ♦
he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion ♦
and high above all peoples.

Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome; ♦
the Lord our God is holy.

Mighty king, who loves justice,
you have established equity; ♦
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

*Exalt the Lord our God; ♦
bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.*

Moses and Aaron among his priests
and Samuel among those who call upon his name; ♦
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; ♦
they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.

You answered them, O Lord our God; ♦
you were a God who forgave them
and pardoned them for their offences.

*Exalt the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill, ♦
for the Lord our God is holy.*

The Gospel Reading

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Matthew 13.44-46

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 ~ A Song of the Lord's Anointed

The Lord has anointed me
and sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ♦
because he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, ♦
to bind up the broken-hearted,

To proclaim liberty to the captives, ♦
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, ♦
to comfort all who mourn,

To give them a garland instead of ashes, ♦
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit,

That they may be called oaks of righteousness, ♦
the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified.

For as the earth puts forth her blossom, ♦
and as seeds in the garden spring up,
So shall the Lord God make righteousness and praise ♦
blossom before all the nations.
You shall be called priests of the Lord; ♦
they shall speak of you as ministers of our God.

Isaiah 61.1-3, 11, 6a

*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.*

The Lord has anointed me
and sent me to bring good news to the oppressed.

*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

Creator God,

source of our being

and our life's goal,

be with us through the changing seasons of life, we pray.

When all is joyful and encouraging,

give us the confidence and the gratefulness to rejoice,

when all seems hopeless and forlorn,

give us the strength of your presence and hope for the future

that we may know our every moment to be lived with you,

in the endless life of your risen Son,

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 our Saviour give us peace.

Amen.

Florence Li Tim-Oi

26 February

First woman priested in the Anglican Communion, 1944—Commemoration

At her birth in 1907 Li Tim-Oi's father called her "Much Beloved." When she was baptized as a student, Tim-Oi chose the name Florence from "The Lady of the Lamp." Florence is celebrated worldwide for the witness to Christ that she lived out as the first female priest in the Anglican Communion. In 1931, at the ordination of a deaconess, she heard and responded to the call to ministry. She was made deacon in 1941, and was given charge of the Anglican congregation in the Portuguese colony of Macao, thronged with refugees from war-torn China.

When a priest could no longer travel from Japanese-occupied territory to preside for her at the eucharist, the Bishop of Hong Kong asked her to meet him in Free China, where on January 25, 1944 he ordained her "a priest in the Church of God." To defuse controversy, in 1946 she surrendered her priest's license, but not her Holy Orders, the knowledge of which carried her through Maoist persecution. For the next 39 years, she served faithfully under very difficult circumstances, particularly after the Communists took over mainland China. In 1983, arrangements were made for her to come to Canada, where she was appointed as an honorary assistant at St. John's Chinese congregation and St. Matthew's parish in Toronto.

The Anglican Church of Canada had by this time approved the ordination of women to the priesthood, and in 1984, the 40th anniversary of her ordination, Ms. Li was, with great joy and thanksgiving, reinstated as a priest. This event was celebrated not only in Canada but also at Westminster Abbey and at Sheffield in England, even though the Church of England had not yet approved the ordination of women.

From that date until her death in 1992, she exercised her priesthood with such faithfulness and quiet dignity that she won tremendous respect for herself and increasing support for other women seeking ordination. She was awarded Doctorates of Divinity by General Theological Seminary, New York, and Trinity College,

Toronto.

The very quality of Ms. Li's ministry in China and in Canada, and the grace with which she exercised her priesthood, helped convince many people throughout

Credits:

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