

# Enriching Our Worship Morning Prayer

## Friday, October 16, 2020

**Opening Sentence:** God is Spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and in truth. *John 4:24*

### Confession:

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

Leader: O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People: **And your glory all the day long.**

**Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.**

### The Venite

Antiphon: The Holy One is in our midst: **O Come let us worship.**

*(read in unison)*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \* let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving \* and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.  
For you are a great God; \* you are great above all gods.  
In your hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are yours also.  
The sea is yours, for you made it, \* and your hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For you are our God, and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. \*  
Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!**

Antiphon: The Holy One is in our midst: **O Come let us worship.**

### The Psalms *(choose one of the following)*

#### Psalm 63:1-8

**O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \* my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.  
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*  
that I might behold your power and your glory.  
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \* my lips shall give you praise.  
So will I bless you as long as I live \* and lift up my hands in your Name.  
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \* and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,  
When I remember you upon my bed, \* and meditate on you in the night watches.  
For you have been my helper, \* and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.  
My soul clings to you; \* your right hand holds me fast.**

Antiphon: **O God, you are my God; from break of day I seek you.**

*or*

**Psalm 67:1-5**

**O God, be merciful to us and bless us, \* show us the light of your countenance and come to us.  
Let your ways be known upon earth, \* your saving health among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \* for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the  
nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; \* let all the peoples praise you.**

Antiphon: **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.**

*or*

**Psalm 134**

**Behold now, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, \*  
you that stand by night in the house of the LORD.  
Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the LORD; \*  
the LORD who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.**

Antiphon: **Yours is the day, O God, yours also the night; you established the moon and the sun.**

*or*

**Psalm 141:1-3,8ab**

**O LORD, I call to you; come to me quickly; \* hear my voice when I cry to you.  
Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, \*  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.  
Set a watch before my mouth, O LORD, and guard the door of my lips; \*  
let not my heart incline to any evil thing. My eyes are turned to you, Lord GOD; \*  
in you I take refuge.**

Antiphon: **Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands like the  
evening sacrifice.**

**The Lessons**

**The First Reading: Acts 28:1-16**

1 After we had reached safety, we then learned that the island was called Malta. 2 The natives showed us unusual kindness. Since it had begun to rain and was cold, they kindled a fire and welcomed all of us round it. 3 Paul had gathered a bundle of brushwood and was putting it on the fire, when a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. 4 When the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, 'This man must be a murderer; though he has escaped from the sea, justice has not allowed him to live.' 5 He, however, shook off the creature into the fire and suffered no harm. 6 They were expecting him to swell up or drop dead, but after they had waited a long time and saw that nothing unusual had happened to him, they changed their minds and began to say that he was a god. 7 Now in the neighborhood of that place were lands belonging to the leading man of the island, named Publius, who received us and entertained us hospitably for three days. 8 It so happened that the father of Publius lay sick in bed with fever and dysentery. Paul visited him and cured him by praying and putting his hands on him. 9 After this happened, the rest of the people on the island who had diseases also came and were cured. 10 They bestowed many honors on us, and when we were about to sail, they put on board all the provisions we needed. 11 Three months later we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead. 12 We put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days; 13 then we weighed anchor and came to Rhegium. After one day there a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. 14 There we found believers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. 15 The believers from there, when they heard of us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. 16 When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle: *A Song of God's Love* (read in unison)**

**Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God.**

**Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is Love.**

**In this the love of God was revealed among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through Jesus Christ.**

**In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.**

**Beloved, since God loved us so much, we ought also to love one another.**

**For if we love one another, God abides in us, and God's love will be perfected in us.**

**The Gospel Reading: Luke 9:28-36**

28 Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. 29 And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. 30 Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. 31 They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. 32 Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. 33 Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah not knowing what he said. 34 While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. 35 Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' 36 When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle: *A Song of Judith* (read in unison)**

**I will sing a new song to my God, \***

**for you are great and glorious, wonderful in strength, invincible.**

**Let the whole creation serve you, \***

**for you spoke and all things came into being.**

**You sent your breath and it formed them, \***

**no one is able to resist your voice.**

**Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths, \***

**rocks melt like wax at your presence.**

**But to those who fear you, \***

**you continue to show mercy.**

**No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, \***

**but whoever fears the Lord shall stand in your sight for ever.**

**The Apostles' Creed (read in unison)**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Leader: Hear our cry, O God.**

**People: And listen to our prayer.**

**Leader: Let us pray.**

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

**R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**

V. Look upon your congregation;

**R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.**

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

**R. And your wonders among all peoples.**

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

**R. Never forget the lives of your poor.**

V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

**R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.**

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

**R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.**

### **Collect of the Day: Pentecost, Proper 23**

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **For Our Enemies**

O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **For Social Justice**

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **For Young Persons**

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Concluding Sentence:**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*