

New Zealand Morning Prayer

Monday, September 13, 2021

The Preparation: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." *Psalm 122:1*

Leader: Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.

People: **Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.**

A Song of Praise (read in unison)

Let the people of God glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him forever.

Glorify the Lord, O priests and servants of the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him forever.

Glorify the Lord, O spirits and souls of the righteous, * praise him and highly exalt him forever.

You that are holy and humble of heart, glorify the Lord, * praise him and highly exalt him forever.

Let us glorify the Lord: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; * praise him and highly exalt him forever.

In the firmament of his power, glorify the Lord, *praise him and highly exalt him forever.

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us praise and worship God who has called us together. Let us celebrate God's majesty, and delight in the wonder of God's love. Together we shall confess our sins and receive assurance that we are forgiven. As the scriptures are read, we can allow God's word to speak to us, and ponder its meaning for our lives. In our prayers, we give thanks for God's goodness, we pray for others as well as for ourselves, and we offer our lives anew in Christ's service. All this we do, because we believe in the presence among us of our Savior Jesus Christ, and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

Hear these words of scripture: *One of the following sentences is read.*

As God who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

or

If we claim to be sinless, we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth.

If we confess our sins, God is just and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

or

Love one another, for love is of God,
and whoever loves is born of God and knows God.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Let us pause in silence, and remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Let us confess our sins to God.

Almighty and merciful God, we have sinned against you, in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart. We have not loved others as our Savior Christ loves us. We are truly sorry. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive our sins, strengthen us by the Holy Spirit, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word:

O come, let us sing to the Lord,

let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

We sing to you, O God, and bless your name;

and tell of your salvation from day to day.

We proclaim your glory to the nations,

your praise to the ends of the earth.

Psalm 52

1 Have mercy on me, O God, for my enemies are hounding me; *
all day long they assault and oppress me.
2 They hound me all the day long; * truly there are many who fight against me, O Most High.
3 Whenever I am afraid, * I will put my trust in you.
4 In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust and will not be afraid, * for what can flesh do to me?
5 All day long they damage my cause; * their only thought is to do me evil.
6 They band together; they lie in wait; * they spy upon my footsteps; because they seek my life.
7 Shall they escape despite their wickedness? * O God, in your anger, cast down the peoples.
8 You have noted my lamentation; put my tears into your bottle; * are they not recorded in your book?
9 Whenever I call upon you, my enemies will be put to flight; * this I know, for God is on my side.
10 In God the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust and will not be afraid, * for what can mortals do to me?
11 I am bound by the vow I made to you, O God; * I will present to you thank-offerings;
12 For you have rescued my soul from death and my feet from stumbling, *
that I may walk before God in the light of the living.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Lessons

The First Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-19

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind 6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you 7 so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. 10 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. 11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12 What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. 18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

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

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 19: *A Song of the Redeemed*

**O ruler of the universe, Lord God, great deeds are they that you have done, *surpassing human understanding.
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, * O King of all the ages.
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord, and sing the praises of your Name? * for you only are the holy One.
All nations will draw near and fall down before you, * because your just and holy works have been revealed.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Second Reading: Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. 3The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4 But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and

showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; 9 and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” 10 Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” 11 Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

Thanks be to God.

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, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray

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 forever. Amen.

Make your ways known upon earth, O God,

your saving power among all peoples.

Renew your Church in holiness,

and help us to serve you with joy.

Guide the leaders of this and every nation,

that justice may prevail throughout the world.

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten,

nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Make us instruments of your peace,

and let your glory be over all the earth.

A Collect of the Day: Pentecost, Proper 19

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

For the Human Family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For Prisons and Correctional Institutions

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. **Amen.**

For the Victims of Addiction

Blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. **Amen.**

Please offer your thanksgivings or prayer requests, either silently or aloud. You can also type them to share with others if you like.

Collect for Morning:

Holy and ever-living God, by your power we are created and by your love we are redeemed; guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live each day in love to one another and to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Dismissal:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

Let us go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ.