

# New Zealand Morning Prayer

## Friday, October 15, 2021

**The Preparation:** I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." *Luke 15:18, 19*

**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 17:1-5**

1 Hear my plea of innocence, O Lord; give heed to my cry; \*  
listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.  
2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; \* let your eyes be fixed on justice.  
3 Weigh my heart, summon me by night, \* melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.  
4 I give no offense with my mouth as others do; \* I have heeded the words of your lips.  
5 My footsteps hold fast to the ways of your law; \* in your paths my feet shall not stumble.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Lessons**

**The First Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

1 Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, 2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. 3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, 4 and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. 11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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 11:1-6**

1 Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities. 2 When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" 4 Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. 6 And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.  
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**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 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 Use of Leisure Time**

O God, you rested the seventh day and are still at work; in the course of this busy life give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation. **Amen.**

**For Peace**

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. **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.**