

New Zealand Morning Prayer

Friday, October 22, 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 31:21-24

21 Blessed be the Lord! * for he has shown me the wonders of his love in a besieged city.

22 Yet I said in my alarm, I have been cut off from the sight of your eyes." *

Nevertheless, you heard the sound of my entreaty when I cried out to you.

23 Love the Lord, all you who worship him; * the Lord protects the faithful, but repays to the full those who act haughtily.

24 Be strong and let your heart take courage, * all you who wait for the Lord.

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 16:10-24

10 If Timothy comes, see that he has nothing to fear among you, for he is doing the work of the Lord just as I am; 11 therefore let no one despise him. Send him on his way in peace, so that he may come to me; for I am expecting him with the brothers. 12 Now concerning our brother Apollos, I strongly urged him to visit you with the other brothers, but he was not at all willing to come now. He will come when he has the opportunity. 13 Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. 14 Let all that you do be done in love. 15 Now, brothers and sisters, you know that members of the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; 16 I urge you to put yourselves at the service of such people, and of everyone who works and toils with them. 17 I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; 18 for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. So give recognition to such persons. 19 The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, greet you warmly in the Lord. 20 All the brothers and sisters send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. 21 I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. 22 Let anyone be accursed who has no love for the Lord. Our Lord, come! 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. 24 My love be with all of you in Christ Jesus.

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 12:22-32

22 Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. 23 All the crowds were amazed and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" 24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons." 25 He knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. 26 If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? 27 If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. 28 But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. 29 Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. 30 Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. 31 Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. 32 Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

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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 24

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **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.