

Evening Prayer

Prayers for our Government

Thursday, October 22, 2020

EVENING PRAYER

Leader: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

Psalm 96:9

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

All: **Almighty and most merciful Father,**
 We have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
 We have followed too much
 the devices and desires of our own hearts.
 We have offended against your holy laws.
 We have left undone those things
 which we ought to have done,
 and we have done those things
 which we ought not to have done;
 and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.
 O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess
 their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to
 your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord;
 And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
 that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
 to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

Priest: The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

INVITATION

Leader: O Lord, open our lips;

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us;

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be 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.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM 126

Verse 1

Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter
Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy
Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord

Chorus

Although we are weeping, Lord help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom, for the day You will reap them
Your sheaves we will carry, Lord please do not tarry
All those who sow weeping, will go out with songs of joy

Verse 2

The nations will say, "He has done great things!"
The nations will sing songs of joy
Restore us, O Lord
Restore us, O Lord

THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM 126

- 1 When the Lord overturned the captivity of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."
- 4 Indeed, the Lord has done great things for us already,
whereof we rejoice.
- 5 Overturn our captivity, O Lord,
as when streams refresh the deserts of the south.
- 6 Those who sow in tears
shall reap with songs of joy.
- 7 He who goes on his way weeping and bears good seed
**shall doubtless come again with joy,
and bring his sheaves with him.**

**Glory be 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.**

MATTHEW 5:1-16

- 1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 - 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
 - 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
 - 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
 - 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
 - 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
 - 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

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

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.

THE PRAYERS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Leader: O Lord, show your mercy upon us;

People: **And grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, guide those who govern us;

And lead us in the way of justice and truth.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

And let your people sing with joy.

O Lord, save your people;

And bless your inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;

And defend us by your mighty power.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THANKSGIVING

We will now divide into virtual breakout groups for a time of free intercession and thanksgiving. You may offer your prayers silently or aloud.

FOR PEACE OF THE WORLD

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR COURTS OF JUSTICE

Almighty God, you sit on your throne giving righteous judgment: We humbly ask you to bless all courts of justice and all magistrates in this land; give them a spirit of wisdom and understanding, that fearing no power but yours alone, they may discern the truth and impartially administer the law; through him who shall come to be our Judge, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

FOR CIVIL AUTHORITIES

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, send down on those who hold public office the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR AN ELECTION

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide and direct, we humbly pray, the minds of all those who are called to elect fit persons to serve in our land. Grant that in the exercise of our choice we may promote your glory, and the welfare of this nation. This we ask for the sake of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR MISSION

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE

Verse 1

Sing praise to God who reigns above
The God of all creation
The God of power, the God of love
The God of our salvation
With healing balm my soul He fills
And ev'ry faithless murmur stills
To God all praise and glory

Verse 2

What God's almighty power hath made
His gracious mercy keepeth
By morning glow or evening shade
His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth
Within the kingdom of His might, lo
All is just and all is right
To God all praise and glory

Verse 3

The Lord is never far away
But through all grief distressing
An ever present help and stay
Our peace and joy and blessing
As with a mother's tender hand
He leads His own, His chosen band
To God all praise and glory

Verse 4

Let all who name Christ's holy Name
Give God all praise and glory
Let all who know His power proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story
Cast each false idol from its throne
The Lord is God and He alone
To God all praise and glory

GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Leader: Let us bless the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. **Amen.**

Eph 3:20-21

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MUSIC CREDITS

PSALM 126

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SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE

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