



**Morning Prayer**  
**Wednesday July 29, 2020**  
**The Feast of Mary, Martha, & Lazarus of**  
**Bethany**

**The Invitatory and Psalter**

<sup>16</sup> Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of Hosts.

[Jeremiah 15:16-19]

**The Confession**

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.**

**Absolution**

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

**Opening Versicle & Doxology**

O God, let our mouth proclaim your praise. **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.**

**Venite [Psalm 95:1-7]**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \* let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, \* and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \* and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## **Psalm 36:5–10**

5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, \* and your faithfulness to the clouds.

6 Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; \*  
you save both man and beast, O Lord.

7 How priceless is your love, O God! \*  
your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

8 They feast upon the abundance of your house; \*  
you give them drink from the river of your delights.

9 For with you is the well of life, \* and in your light we see light.

10 Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you, \*  
and your favor to those who are true of heart.

## **The Lessons**

### **A Reading from the Letter to the Romans [12:9-13]**

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### **Canticle: A Song of Our True Nature - Julian of Norwich**

Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, \* our trespasses and our humiliations.  
Christ also revealed his blessed power, \* his blessed wisdom and love.  
He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need; \*  
he raises us in spirit and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.

God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; \*

God is the true father and mother of natures.

We are all bound to God by nature, \* and we are all bound to God by grace.

And this grace is for all the world, \* because it is our precious mother, Christ.

For this fair nature was prepared by Christ for the honor and nobility of all, \*  
and for the joy and bliss of salvation.

## **The Second Lesson: The Gospel of Luke [10:38-42]**

38 Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; <sup>42</sup>there is need of only one thing.\* - Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

### **The Song of Mary** *Magnificat Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \* in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,\* and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, \* to Abraham and his children for ever.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### **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 power of 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

Hear our cry, O God. **And listen to our prayer.**

Let us pray. God be with you. **And also with you.**

## The Lord's Prayer

### The Suffrages

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

Generous God, whose Son Jesus Christ enjoyed the friendship and hospitality of Mary, Martha and Lazarus of Bethany: Open our hearts to love you, our ears to hear you, and our hands to welcome and serve you in others, through Jesus Christ our risen Lord; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## A Prayer for Joy in Creation

Holy and Loving God, you have filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Church

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself: We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your Name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. **Amen**

## **A Prayer for Wisdom**

*by Marian Wright Edelman*

O God, who can turn our worries into wings of joys and our sorrows into songs of thanks, let not our hearts be so troubled by the tragedies of this life's moment that we lose sight of the eternal life in your kingdom...Strengthen our resolve to replace hatred with love, tension with trust, and selfishness with caring and community. Heal, O God, all our children so that those who hate and those who are hated, those who hurt and those who are hurt, may grow up in a world of peace, opportunity, and justice. **Amen**

## **A Prayer for an end to racism**

O Lord our God, in your mercy and kindness, no thought of ours is left unnoticed, no desire or concern ignored. You have proven that blessings abound when we fall on our knees in prayer, and so we turn to you in our hour of need. Fill us with your mercy so that we, in turn, may be merciful to others. Strip away pride, suspicion, and racism so that we may seek peace and justice in our communities. Strengthen our hearts so that they beat only to the rhythm of your holy purpose. Flood our path with your light as we walk humbly toward a future filled with compassionate understanding and unity. Be with us, O Lord, in our efforts, for only by the prompting of your grace can we progress toward virtue. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **A Prayer for those who have died from Coronavirus**

Lord, your ways are mysterious, and your purposes unknowable. But that of which we can be sure is that when we feel sorrow, you feel sorrow, too. That when we suffer, you also suffer. That when we mourn, you mourn, as well. That when our hearts are broken, so is yours. Lord, we feel that sorrow now, that suffering now, that mourning now, and our hearts are breaking now that in this nation more than 145,000 of our sisters and brothers have already been taken from us by this disease. Yet, we know that your Son who suffered death itself for us, is by our side, and shares our burden. So, Lord, comfort those who have lost, protect those who remain, and take those you have gathered into that greater light where pain, and suffering, and death itself exist no more. **Amen**

## **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord,

our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

Be O Lord, a guiding star above us, a smooth path below us, a kindly shepherd behind us and a bright flame before us; today, tonight and forever. **Amen.**