



Morning Prayer
Wednesday November 11, 2020
Veterans Day

What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

[Micah 6:8]

The Invitatory and Psalter

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [John 8:12]

The Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Renew in us this day the image of your love; renew in us in the likeness of your mercy, O God. May any refusal to forgive that lingers with us, any bitterness of soul that hardens our hearts, be softened by your graces. Renew us in the image of your love, O God, renew us in the likeness of your mercy. **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 Prayer

In the morning light, O God, may I glimpse again your image deep with me, the threads of eternal glory woven into the fabric of every man and woman. May I catch sight of the mystery of the human soul fashioned in your likeness deeper than knowing, more enduring than time. And in glimpsing these threads of light amidst the weakness and distortion of my life, let me be recalled to the strength and beauty deep in my soul. Let me be recalled to the strength and beauty of your image in every living soul. **Amen.**

Psalms 47

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

² May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

- ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ⁸ May he have dominion from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- ⁹ May his foes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust.
- ¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
- ¹¹ May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.
- ¹² For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.
- ¹³ He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.
- ¹⁵ Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him.
May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all day long.
- ¹⁶ May there be abundance of grain in the land;
may it wave on the tops of the mountains; may its fruit be like Lebanon;
and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field.
- ¹⁷ May his name endure for ever, his fame continue as long as the sun.
May all nations be blessed in him; may they pronounce him happy.
- ¹⁸ Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
- ¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name for ever; may his glory fill the whole earth.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy [10:12-13, 17-21]

12 So now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. ¹⁷For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, ¹⁸who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. ¹⁹You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. ²⁰You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

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

The Third Song of Isaiah [Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19]

Arise, shine, for your light has come, * and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you
For behold, darkness covers the land; * deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, * and his glory will appear upon you.

Nations will stream to your light, * and kings to the brightness of your dawning.

Your gates will always be open; * by day or night they will never be shut. They will call you,
The City of the Lord, * The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Violence will no more be heard in your land, *ruin or destruction within your borders.

You will call your walls, Salvation, *and all your portals, Praise.

The sun will no more be your light by day; *

by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.

The Lord will be your everlasting light, * and your God will be your glory.

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 Second Lesson: The Gospel of John [8:31-36]

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.' They answered him, 'We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free"?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

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

Canticle: A Song of God's Love [1 John 4:7-11]

Beloved, let us love one another, * for love is of God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, * for God is Love.

In this the love of God was revealed among us, * that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through Jesus Christ. 38 In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us * and sent his Son that sins might be forgiven.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, * we ought also to love one another.

For if we love one another, God abides in us, * and God's love will be perfected in us.

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

A Litany for the Healing of our Country

from God's Good Earth

Almighty God, giver of all good things: We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them. **Heal us.**

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them. **Forgive us.**

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, even though we often fall short of them. **Inspire us.**

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light. **Enlighten us.**

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again. **Renew us.**

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices join in one united chorus. **Amen.**

The Prayers

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace;

strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Litany from the Book of Worship for the United States Forces [1974]

Let us give thanks to God for the land of our birth with all its chartered liberties. For all the wonder of our country's story: **We give you thanks, O God.**

For leaders in nation and state, and for those who in days past and in these present times have labored for the commonwealth: **We give you thanks, O God.**

For those who in all times and places have been true and brave, and in the worlds common ways have lived upright lives and ministered to their fellows: **We give you thanks, O God.**

For those who served their country in its hour of need, and especially for those who gave even their lives in that service: **We give you thanks, O God.**

O almighty God and most merciful Father, as we remember these your servants, remembering with gratitude their courage and strength, we hold before you those who mourn them. Look upon your bereaved servants with your mercy. As this day brings them memories of those they have lost awhile, may it also bring your consolation and the assurance that their loved ones are alive now and forever in your living presence. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Veterans

Dear God, Please bless the veterans who wore the faded uniform. May they know the peace of a career well-served, and service completed. Give them our thanks for the doors opened, paths paved, and battles fought. Give them our thanks for the freedom preserved, future defended, and the ideals embodied. Bless the veterans who defended our country with strength and selfless devotion. **Amen**

A Prayer after the Election

Almighty God our heavenly Father, you declare your glory and show forth your handiwork in the heavens and in the earth: Deliver us in our various occupations from the service of self alone, that we may do the work you give us to do in truth and beauty and for the common good: for the sake of him who came among us as one who serves, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

A Prayer in Time of Transition

God of growth and discovery, yours is the inspiration that has changed our lives. Yours is the power that has brought us to take new risks and face new opportunities. You shape our dreams. May your Spirit guide us in our preparations to search for a new Rector: open our eyes to what is possible and what is unfinished; open our ears to words of wisdom that assure us and challenge us; open our hearts to possibilities we have not yet imagined and to what we have neglected, that we may be both bold and humble; through Jesus Christ, our Light, our Center, our Hope. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Facing the Coronavirus

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus. Give solace to those who grieve the loss of over 235,000 loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for an End to Racism

Lord, Jesus Christ who reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives, help us to break down the barriers in our community and to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world. **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.**

Blessing

May God shield your body, mind, soul and home; may the righteousness of God guide your footsteps and the wisdom of God guide your choices; may the mercy of God give you a heart of compassion; and may God's blessing, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be on you and those you love, now and always. **Amen.**