

Morning Prayer
Wednesday November 25, 2020
Thanksgiving Day



We give you thanks, O God, we give you thanks, calling upon your Name and declaring all your wonderful deeds.

[Psalm 75:1]

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.**

Psalm 65

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; * to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, * because of their transgressions.
3 Our sins are stronger than we are, * but you will blot them out.
4 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.
5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, *
O Hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.
6 You make fast the mountains by your power; * they are girded about with might.
7 You still the roaring of the seas, *
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
10 You prepare the grain, * for so you provide for the earth.
11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
12 You crown the year with your goodness, * and your paths overflow with plenty.
13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, * and the hills be clothed with joy.
14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; * let them shout for joy and sing.

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy [8:7-18]

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Moses said to all Israel: For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. You shall eat your fill and bless the Lord your God for the good land that he has given you. Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, and fed you in the wilderness with

manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

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

A Song of the Wilderness [Isaiah 35:1-7,10]

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, * the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

It shall blossom abundantly, * and rejoice with joy and singing.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, * the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weary hands, * and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *

Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, * and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.

Then shall the lame leap like a deer, * and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness * and streams in the desert;

The burning sand shall become a pool * and the thirsty ground, springs of water.

The ransomed of God shall return with singing, * with everlasting joy upon their heads.

Joy and gladness shall be theirs, * and sorrow and sighing shall flee away

The Second Lesson: The Gospel of Luke [17:11-19]

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

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

Canticle: A Song of Christ's Goodness

Anselm of Canterbury

Jesus, as a mother you gather your people to you; *

you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

Often you weep over our sins and our pride, *

tenderly you draw us from hatred and judgment.
You comfort us in sorrow and bind up our wounds, *
in sickness you nurse us and with pure milk you feed us.
Jesus, by your dying, we are born to new life; *
by your anguish and labor we come forth in joy.
Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; *
through your gentleness, we find comfort in fear.
Your warmth gives life to the dead, * your touch makes sinners righteous.
Lord Jesus, in your mercy, heal us; * in your love and tenderness, remake us.
In your compassion, bring grace and forgiveness, *
for the beauty of heaven, may your love prepare 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

Collect of the Day

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Litany of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea. **We thank you, Lord.**

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,
We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, **We thank you, Lord.**

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, **We thank you, Lord.**

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, **We thank you, Lord.**

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, **We thank you, Lord.**

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus
our Lord;

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

A Stewardship Prayer

Blessed be God who calls us together **Praise to God who makes us one people.**
Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin. **Praise to God who gives hope and freedom**
Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed. **Praise to God who is revealed as love.**
Blessed be God who alone has called us.

Therefore we offer all that we are and all that we shall become.

Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise.

Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Our hands were empty, and you filled them. 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 250, 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

In the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,

Let us know peace.

For as long as the moon shall rise, for as long as the rivers shall flow, for as long as the sun shall shine, for as long as the grass shall grow,

Let us know peace.

Dismissal

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold onto what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**