

MORNING PRAYER

Sunday 22nd August 2021
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to this service of Morning Prayer, and thank you for joining us whether from near or far. Please add your voice and your prayers as we worship God together.

*The service of **Morning Prayer** has its roots in the daily pattern of prayer and worship in monastic communities. The liturgy draws richly on the scriptures: both in the appointed psalms and readings, and also in other songs (canticles) and responses. Today's pew sheet (see www.anglicanaltlav.org.au/pew-sheets) contains a third reading, set for today but not included in this service.*

This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalm 118.24

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

The Opening Cantic, A Song of God's Mercy

God who is rich in mercy: out of the great love with
which he loved us,
Even when we were dead through our trespasses:
made us alive together with Christ,
And raised us up with him: and made us sit with him
in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,
That he might show the immeasurable riches of his
grace: in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2.4-7

The Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
confident in God's forgiveness.
**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;**

**we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

Psalm

How lovely is your dwelling-place: O Lord God of
hosts!
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts
of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the
living God.
The sparrow has found her a home, and the swallow a
nest where she may lay her young: even your altar,
O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are those who dwell in your house: they will
always be praising you.
Blessed are those whose strength is in you: in whose
heart are the highways to Zion;
Who, going through the valley of dryness, find there
a spring from which to drink: till the autumn rain
shall clothe it with blessings.
They go from strength to strength: they appear, every
one of them, before the God of gods in Zion.
O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O
God of Jacob.
Behold, O God, him who reigns over us: and look
upon the face of your anointed.
One day in your courts is better than a thousand: I
would rather stand at the threshold of the house of
my God than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
For the Lord God is a light and a shield, the Lord
gives favour and honour: and no good thing will he
withhold from those who walk in innocence.

O Lord God of hosts: blessed are those who put their trust in you.

(84)

Lord God, sustain us in this vale of tears with the vision of your grace and glory; that as we journey towards your presence, we may go from strength to strength in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Reading from the First Testament (Hebrew Bible)

A reading from the first book of Kings

Solomon stood before the LORD's altar in front of the entire Israelite assembly and, spreading out his hands toward the sky, he said:

"LORD God of Israel, there's no god like you in heaven above or on earth below. You keep the covenant and show loyalty to your servants who walk before you with all their heart. This is the covenant you kept with your servant David, my father, which you promised him. Today, you have fulfilled what you promised. So now, LORD, Israel's God, keep what you promised my father David, your servant, when you said to him, "You will never fail to have a successor sitting on Israel's throne as long as your descendants carefully walk before me just as you walked before me." So now, God of Israel, may your promise to your servant David, my father, come true.

"But how could God possibly live on earth? If heaven, even the highest heaven, can't contain you, how can this temple that I've built contain you? LORD my God, listen to your servant's prayer and request, and hear the cry and prayer that your servant prays to you today. Constantly watch over this temple, the place about which you said, "My name will be there," and listen to the prayer that your servant is praying toward this place. Listen to the request of your servant and your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Listen from your heavenly dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive!

...

"Listen also to the immigrant who isn't from your people Israel but who comes from a distant country because of your reputation—because they will hear of your great reputation, your great power, and your outstretched arm. When the immigrant comes and prays toward this temple, then listen from heaven, where you live, and do everything the immigrant asks. Do this so that all the people of the earth may know your reputation and revere you, as your people Israel do, and recognise that this temple I have built bears your name."

(8.22-30, 41-43; CEB)

Here ends the first reading.

Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the Gospel according to John

Jesus said: "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in them. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me lives because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. It isn't like the bread your ancestors ate, and then they died. Whoever eats this bread will live forever." Jesus said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many of his disciples who heard this said, "This message is harsh. Who can hear it?"

Jesus knew that the disciples were grumbling about this and he said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you were to see the Son of Man going up where he was before? The Spirit is the one who gives life and the flesh doesn't help at all. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life. Yet some of you don't believe." Jesus knew from the beginning who wouldn't believe and the one who would betray him. He said, "For this reason I said to you that none can come to me unless the Father enables them to do so." At this, many of his disciples turned away and no longer accompanied him.

Jesus asked the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?"

Simon Peter answered, "Lord, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe, and have come to know that you are the holy one of God."

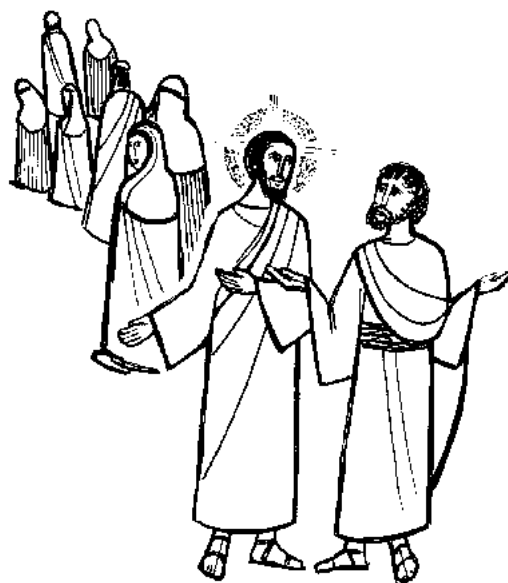
(6.56-69; CEB)

Here ends the second reading.

The readings are followed by a short period of silence for reflection, then the response

May your word live in us

and bear much fruit to your glory.



The Canticle, Te Deum Laudamus

We praise you, O God: we acclaim you as Lord.
All creation worships you: the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven: the
cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you: The
noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you:
Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaims
you:
Father, of majesty unbounded: your true and only
Son, worthy of all praise, the Holy Spirit, advocate
and guide.
You, Christ, are the King of glory: the eternal Son of
the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free: you humbly
chose the virgin's womb.
You overcame the sting of death: and opened the
kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God's right hand in glory: We
believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with
the price of your own blood: and bring us with
your saints to glory everlasting.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

**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 from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come 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

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

**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 for ever. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, gave himself
as living bread for the life of the world: give us such
a knowledge of his presence that we may be
strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve
you continually; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you in unity with the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

concluding with the Parish Prayer:

**Creator Spirit, God beyond our knowing,
your love has been poured into our hearts.
Renew our trust in you,
and shape our lives to the call of Jesus,
our crucified and risen Lord.
Make us a people of blessing and hope,
so that neighbours and strangers may be drawn
to the compassion of Christ. Amen.**

The Morning Collect

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are
created and by whose love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may
give ourselves to your service, and live this day in
love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of
God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us
all evermore. **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13.14

*Material in this service is taken from A Prayer Book for Australia
(1995), Common Worship: Daily Prayer (2005).*