

MORNING PRAYER

Sunday 29th August 2021
Fourteenth 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 Creation

Bless the Lord all created things: who is worthy to be
praised and exalted for ever.
Bless the Lord all people of the earth: who is worthy
to be praised and exalted for ever.
O people of God bless the Lord: bless the Lord you
priests of the Lord,
Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord: who is
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit: bless the Lord
you that are holy and humble in heart.
Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit: who is
worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

Song of the Three 35ff

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.**

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

Psalm

My heart is astir with fine phrases, I make my song
for a king: my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.
You are the fairest of men, grace flows from your
lips: therefore has God blessed you for ever and
ever.

Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever:
and the sceptre of your kingdom is a righteous
sceptre.

You have loved righteousness and hated evil:
therefore God, your God, has anointed you with
the oil of gladness above your fellows.

All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes and cassia: music from ivory palaces makes you glad. Kings' daughters are among your noble women: the queen is at your right hand in gold of Ophir.
(45.1-2, 6-9)

You have anointed us, O Lamb of God,
with the oil of gladness
and clothed us in the garments of salvation:
come and unite us
in the joy of heaven wedded to earth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading from the First Testament (Hebrew Bible)

A reading from the Song of Songs

Listen! It's my lover: here he comes now,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

My lover is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Here he stands now,
outside our wall,
peering through the windows,
peeking through the lattices.

My lover spoke and said to me,
"Rise up, my dearest,
my fairest, and go.

Here, the winter is past;
the rains have come and gone.

Blossoms have appeared in the land;
the season of singing has arrived,
and the sound of the turtledove is heard in our
land.

The green fruit is on the fig tree,
and the grapevines in bloom are fragrant.

Rise up, my dearest,
my fairest, and go.

(2.8-13; CEB)

Here ends the first reading.

Reading from the New Testament

A reading from the letter of James

Every good gift and every perfect present comes from heaven; it comes down from God, the Creator of the heavenly lights, who does not change or cause darkness by turning. By his own will he brought us into being through the word of truth, so that we should have first place among all his creatures.

Remember this, my dear friends! Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry. Human anger does not achieve God's righteous purpose. So get rid of every filthy habit and all wicked

conduct. Submit to God and accept the word that he plants in your hearts, which is able to save you.

Do not deceive yourselves by just listening to his word; instead, put it into practice. If you listen to the word, but do not put it into practice you are like people who look in a mirror and see themselves as they are. They take a good look at themselves and then go away and at once forget what they look like. But if you look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, and keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice—you will be blessed by God in what you do.

Do any of you think you are religious? If you do not control your tongue, your religion is worthless and you deceive yourself. What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans and widows in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world.

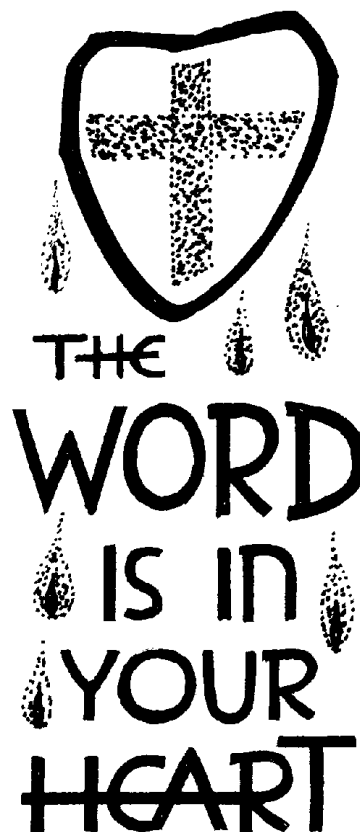
(1.17-27; CEB)

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, A Song of God's Children

In Christ Jesus, the life-giving law of the Spirit: has set us free from the law of sin and death.
All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God: it is the Spirit that enables us to cry, 'Abba!' Father.
The Spirit bears witness that we are God's children: and if God's children, then heirs of God.
We are heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Christ: If we share his sufferings now we shall be glorified with him hereafter.
These sufferings that we now endure: are not worth comparing with the glory that shall be revealed.
For the creation waits with eager longing: for the revealing of the children of God.

Romans 8.2, 14, 15b-19

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

Cleanse our consciences, O Lord,
and enlighten our hearts
through the daily presence of your Son Jesus Christ,
that when he comes in glory to be our judge
we may be found undefiled and acceptable in his sight;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for 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).