Monday, July 27, 2020

+ OPENING CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

O God, open our lips,

and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

we praise your name, O God.

[ADAPTED FROM PSALM 51:15 AND 113:3]

+ REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

(Water may be touched, poured or sprinkled.)

By Word and water God renews us this day
in the living fountain of God's grace,
and raises us with Christ Jesus to live a new life in the Spirit.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, O God,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. [PSALM 90:14]

+ MORNING HYMN OR CANTICLE

Come, let us sing to the <u>Ho</u>-ly *One*; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of <u>our sal-vation</u>.
Let us come before God's presence <u>with</u> thanks-*giving*,*
and raise a loud <u>shout</u> with *psalms*.
For you, O God, <u>are a great God</u>,*
you are great a-<u>bove</u> all *gods*.

In your hand are the <u>caverns</u> of the *earth*,*
and the heights of the hills <u>are</u> yours *also*.

The sea is yours, <u>for</u> you <u>made it</u>,*
and your hands have molded <u>the</u> dry <u>land</u>.

Come, let us bow down and <u>bend</u> the <u>knee</u>,*
and kneel before <u>God</u>, our <u>Maker</u>.

For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture
and the sheep <u>of</u> your <u>hand</u>.*

Oh, that today we would hearken <u>to</u> your <u>voice</u>!

[PSALM 95:1-7 (OSH PSALTER)]

+MORNING PRAYER

The Holy One* be with you;

And also with you.

Let us pray:

New every morning is your love, great God of light, and all day long you are working for good in the world. Stir up in us desire to serve you, to live peacefully with our neighbors, and to devote each day to your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

[PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIPBOOK, USA., 20TH C. USED BY PERMISSION.]

+ Psalm 119:121-128

Antiphon:

Truly I love <u>your</u> commandments more than gold, more <u>than</u> fine gold.

- ¹²¹ I have done what is <u>just</u> and *right*; do not leave me to my op-*pressors*.
- ¹²² Guarantee your <u>servant's</u> well-*being*; do not let the godless <u>op</u>-press *me*.
- ¹²³ My eyes fail from watching for <u>your</u> sal-*vation*, and for the fulfillment of your <u>right</u>-eous *promise*.
- ¹²⁴ Deal with your servant according to your <u>stead</u>-fast *love*,
 - and teach me your statutes.
- ¹²⁵ I am your servant; give me <u>un</u>-der-standing, so that I may know <u>your</u> de-crees.
- ¹²⁶ It is time for the <u>LORD</u> to *act*, for your law <u>has</u> been *broken*.
- ¹²⁷ Truly I love <u>your</u> com-*mandments* more than gold, more <u>than</u> fine *gold*.
- ¹²⁸ Truly I direct my steps by <u>all</u> your *precepts*; I hate <u>every</u> false *way*.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.

Antiphon:

Truly I love <u>your</u> commandments more than gold, more <u>than</u> fine gold.

Silence

+ WORD: James 3:13-18 NRSV

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵ Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶ For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for^[a] those who make peace.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

We bless you, Adonai, <u>God</u> of *Israel*, for you come to visit us and ransom <u>us</u> from *bondage*.

You have brought forth a strong De-liverer

in the house of your child David.

This is what your holy <u>prophets</u> an-nounced: deliverance from enemies and from the hand of <u>all</u> who hate *us*;

mercy a-mong our ancestors, and remembrance of your ho-ly covenant.

This is the promise you swore to our <u>an</u>-cestor, *Abraham*,

to make us <u>un</u>-a-fraid,

to rescue us from our enemies,

to serve before you, holy and just,

all the days of our lives.

And this, my little child,
shall be called prophet of the Most High,
going before you, Adonai, to pre-pare your paths,
making your people know de-liverance
by the forgiveness of their sins.

Through your merciful compassions, <u>God</u> our *God*, the dawn from on <u>high</u> shall *visit us*, to shine on those kept in dungeons and the <u>shadows</u> of *death* and to guide our feet onto the <u>path</u> of *peace*. [LUKE 1:68-79] Glory to you, O Trinity, most <u>holy</u> and *blessed*, one God, now and for-<u>ever</u>, A-*men*.

+ A READING FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION:

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

Mother Teresa

Silent reflection

+ PRAYERS

The Holy One be with you, and also with you.

Let us pray:

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in thy loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Almighty God our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold office in this State of New Jersey, in Atlantic and Cape May counties, in the townships and cities where we live, the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR Prisons and Correctional Institutions

Lord Jesus, for our sake you were condemned as a criminal: Visit our jails and prisons with your pity and judgment. Remember all prisoners, and bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will, and give them hope for their future. When any are held unjustly, bring them release; forgive us, and teach us to improve our justice. Remember those who work in these institutions; keep them humane and compassionate; and save them from becoming brutal or callous. And since what we do for those in prison, O Lord, we do for you, constrain us to improve their lot. All this we ask for your mercy's sake. *Amen.*

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever. Amen.

+ CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father,
You have brought us in safety to this new day:
preserve us with your mighty power,
that we may not fall into sin,
nor be overcome by adversity;
and in all we do direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ BLESSING

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit, we may abound in hope. *Amen.*

Romans 15:13