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Thursday, August 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 Ho-ly One; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-vation.  
**Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,\***  
and raise a loud shout with *psalms*.

For you, O God, are a great God,\*  
***you are great a-bove all gods.***

In your hand are the caverns of the *earth*,\*  
and the heights of the hills are yours *also*.  
***The sea is yours, for you made it,\****  
and your hands have molded the dry *land*.  
Come, let us bow down and bend the *knee*,\*  
***and kneel before God, our Maker.***

For you are our God,  
and we are the people of your pasture  
***and the sheep of your hand.\****  
Oh, that today we would hearken to your *voice*!

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

+**MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One\* be with you;  
***And also with you.***

Let us pray:

We give you hearty thanks for the rest of the past night  
and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of  
pleasing you. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the  
perfect freedom of your service, that at eventide we may  
again give thanks unto you. ***Amen.*** [UM Book of Worship]

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**+ Psalm 26:1-8**

Antiphon:

***Establish justice for me, O Lord,  
purify my heart and mind.***

- <sup>1</sup> Vindicate me, O LORD,  
for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
- <sup>2</sup> Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.
- <sup>3</sup> For your steadfast love is before my eyes,  
and I walk in faithfulness to you.
- <sup>4</sup> I do not sit with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with hypocrites;
- <sup>5</sup> I hate the company of evildoers,  
and will not sit with the wicked.
- <sup>6</sup> I wash my hands in innocence,  
and go around your altar, O LORD,  
<sup>7</sup> singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds.
- <sup>8</sup> O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,  
and the place where your glory abides.

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

***Establish justice for me, O Lord,  
purify my heart and mind.***

Silence

+ WORD: Ephesians 5:1-6 NRSV

- <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children,  
<sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up  
for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- <sup>3</sup> But fornication and impurity of any kind, or greed, must  
not even be mentioned among you, as is proper among  
saints. <sup>4</sup> Entirely out of place is obscene, silly, and vulgar  
talk; but instead, let there be thanksgiving. <sup>5</sup> Be sure of  
this, that no fornicator or impure person, or one who is  
greedy (that is, an idolater), has any inheritance in the  
kingdom of Christ and of God.
- <sup>6</sup> Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because  
of these things the wrath of God comes on those who  
are disobedient.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

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+ **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

We bless you, Adonai, God of *Israel*,  
for you come to visit us and ransom us from *bondage*.  
You have brought forth a strong *De-liverer*  
in the house of your child *David*.

**This is what your holy prophets an-nounced:  
deliverance from enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us;  
mercy a-mong our *ancestors*,  
and remembrance of your ho-ly *covenant*.**

This is the promise you swore to our an-cestor, *Abraham*,  
to make us un-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*.**

[Unison]

Through your merciful compassions, God our *God*,  
the dawn from on high shall *visit us*,  
to shine on those kept in dungeons and the shadows of *death*  
and to guide our feet onto the path of *peace*. [LUKE 1:68-79;OSL]

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

+ **A READING FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION:**

**“I need to spend time with God even when  
I do not know what to pray.”**

— Andrew Murray

Silent reflection

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ **SILENT PRAYER**

Requests known to you

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+ FOR HEALTH OF BODY AND SOUL

For those we have lifted up today, may God the Father bless you, God the Son heal you, God the Holy Spirit give you strength. May God the holy and undivided Trinity guard your body, save your soul, and bring you safely to his heavenly country; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; 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 THE POOR AND THE NEGLECTED

***Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none***

***to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO INFLUENCE

PUBLIC OPINION

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR HEROIC SERVICE

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly

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accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus  
Christ our Lord. *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**

Before us it is blessed, behind us it is blessed,  
below us it is blessed, above us it is blessed,  
around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.  
Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.  
With beauty before us, with beauty behind us,  
with beauty below us, with beauty above us,  
with beauty around us, we set out for a holy place  
indeed. **Amen.**

(TRADITIONAL NAVAHO PRAYER, ALT.)