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Thursday, August 6, 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 85:8-13

Antiphon:

***The glory of the Lord shall be re-vealed,
And all flesh shall see it to-gether.***

- ⁸ Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his *people*,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their *hearts*.
⁹ Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our *land*.
¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithful-ness will *meet*;
righteousness and peace will kiss each *other*.
¹¹ Faithfulness will spring up from the *ground*,
and righteousness will look down from the *sky*.
¹² The LORD will give what is *good*,
and our land will yield its *in-crease*.
¹³ Righteousness will go be-fore *him*,
and will make a path for his *steps*.

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

***The glory of the Lord shall be re-vealed,
And all flesh shall see it to-gether.***

Silence

+ WORD: Acts 17:10-15 NRSV

¹⁰ That very night the believers sent Paul and Silas off to Beroea; and when they arrived, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ These Jews were more receptive than those in Thessalonica, for they welcomed the message very eagerly and examined the scriptures every day to see whether these things were so. ¹² Many of them therefore believed, including not a few Greek women and men of high standing. ¹³ But when the Jews of Thessalonica learned that the word of God had been proclaimed by Paul in Beroea as well, they came there too, to stir up and incite the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the believers immediately sent Paul away to the coast, but Silas and Timothy remained behind. ¹⁵ Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens; and after receiving instructions to have Silas and Timothy join him as soon as possible, they left him.

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:

**“My son, keep your father’s command;
don’t abandon your mother’s instruction.**

**²¹ Bind them on your heart for all time;
fasten them around your neck.**

**²² When you walk around, they will lead you;
when you lie down, they will protect you;
when you awake, they will occupy your attention.**

Proverbs 6:20-22 CEB

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

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; 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.)