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Tuesday, September 8, 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:

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.]

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+ Psalm 119: 65 – 72 CEV

Antiphon:

***You are kindhearted, and you do good things,
so teach me your laws.***

- ⁶⁵ I am your servant, LORD,
and you have kept your promise
to treat me with kindness.
- ⁶⁶ Give me wisdom and good sense.
I trust your commands.
- ⁶⁷ Once you corrected me for not obeying you,
but now I obey.
- ⁶⁸ You are kindhearted, and you do good things,
so teach me your laws.
- ⁶⁹ My reputation is being ruined by conceited liars,
but with all my heart I follow your teachings.
- ⁷⁰ Those liars have no sense,
but I find happiness
in your Law.
- ⁷¹ When you corrected me, it did me good
because it taught me to study your laws.
- ⁷² I would rather obey you
than to have a thousand pieces
of silver and gold.

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

***You are kindhearted, and you do good things,
so teach me your laws.***

Silence

+ WORD: Romans 13:1-7 CEV

¹ Obey the rulers who have authority over you. Only God can give authority to anyone, and he puts these rulers in their places of power. ² People who oppose the authorities are opposing what God has done, and they will be punished. ³ Rulers are a threat to evil people, not to good people. There is no need to be afraid of the authorities. Just do right, and they will praise you for it. ⁴ After all, they are God's servants, and it is their duty to help you.

If you do something wrong, you ought to be afraid, because these rulers have the right to punish you. They are God's servants who punish criminals to show how angry God is. ⁵ But you should obey the rulers because you know it is the right thing to do, and not just because of God's anger.

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⁶ You must also pay your taxes. The authorities are God's servants, and it is their duty to take care of these matters. ⁷ Pay all that you owe, whether it is taxes and fees or respect and honor.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

+ SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+ **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*.**

**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]**

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

+ **COMMEMORATION:** Soren Kierkegaard

Known as the father of existentialism, Soren Kierkegaard was a Danish philosopher who challenged the Lutheran Church for being too complacent.

"So he chastised: "We are what is called a 'Christian' nation—but in such a sense that not a single one of us is in the character of the Christianity of the New Testament."

(Click for more info: [Link #1](#) and [Link #2](#))

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Silent reflection

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ COLLECT OF THE DAY - Soren Kierkegaard

Heavenly Father, whose beloved Son Jesus Christ felt sorrow and dread in the Garden of Gethsemane: Help us to remember that though we walk through the valley of the shadow, you are always with us, that with your philosopher Søren Kierkegaard, we may believe what we have not seen and trust where we cannot test, and so come at length to the eternal joy which you have prepared for those who love you; through the same Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

[\[PRAYER_FORWARD.ORG\]](http://PRAYER_FORWARD.ORG)

+ PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

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 your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR JOY IN GOD'S CREATION

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your

favor and glad to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. 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