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Tuesday, September 15, 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:

Almighty and everlasting God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
you created us for yourself, so that our hearts are  
restless until they find rest in you. Grant to us such

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piety of heart and strength of purpose that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness from doing it. In your light may we see life clearly and, in your service, find perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(THE BOOK OF WORSHIP 1965, ALT.)

**+ Psalm 133** CEV

Antiphon:

***Unite us, Lord, unite us,  
by your everlasting love.***

Look at how good and pleasing it is  
when families<sup>[a]</sup> live together as one!

<sup>2</sup> It is like expensive oil poured over the head,  
running down onto the beard—  
Aaron's beard!—

which extended over the collar of his robes.

<sup>3</sup> It is like the dew on Mount Hermon  
streaming down onto the mountains of Zion,  
because it is there that the LORD has commanded the  
blessing:

everlasting life.

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

***Unite us, Lord, unite us,  
by your everlasting love.***

Silence

**+ WORD:** Romans 14:13-15:2 CEV

<sup>13</sup> So stop judging each other. Instead, this is what you should decide: never put a stumbling block or obstacle in the way of your brother or sister. <sup>14</sup> I know and I'm convinced in the Lord Jesus that nothing is wrong to eat in itself. But if someone thinks something is wrong to eat, it becomes wrong for that person. <sup>15</sup> If your brother or sister is upset by your food, you are no longer walking in love. Don't let your food destroy someone for whom Christ died. <sup>16</sup> And don't let something you consider to be good be criticized as wrong. <sup>17</sup> God's kingdom isn't about eating food and drinking but about righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> Whoever serves Christ this way pleases God and gets human approval.

<sup>19</sup> So let's strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up. <sup>20</sup> Don't destroy what

God has done because of food. All food is acceptable, but it's a bad thing if it trips someone else. <sup>21</sup> It's a good thing not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything that trips your brother or sister. <sup>22</sup> Keep the belief that you have to yourself—it's between you and God. People are blessed who don't convict themselves by the things they approve. <sup>23</sup> But those who have doubts are convicted if they go ahead and eat, because they aren't acting on the basis of faith. Everything that isn't based on faith is sin.

<sup>1</sup> We who are powerful need to be patient with the weakness of those who don't have power, and not please ourselves. <sup>2</sup> Each of us should please our neighbors for their good in order to build them up.

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;OSL]

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

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+ **COMMEMORATION:** Cyprian of Carthage

**“It is a bad world, Donatus, an incredibly bad world. But I have discovered in the midst of it, a quiet and good people who have learned the great secret of life. They have found a joy and wisdom which is a thousand times better than any of the pleasures of our sinful life. They are despised and persecuted, but they care not. They are masters of their souls. They have overcome the world. These people, Donatus, are Christians. . . and I am one of them.”**

— Cyprian

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

Silent reflection

+ COLLECT OF THE DAY: Cyprian of Carthage

Almighty God, who gave your servant Cyprian, boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+ **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray:

+ PRAYER FOR RECOVERY OF SICKNESS

O God of heavenly powers, by the might of your command you drive away from our bodies all sickness and all infirmity: Be present in your goodness with those we lift today, that their weaknesses may be banished and their strength restored; and that with health being renewed, all may bless your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER] *adapted*

+ COLLECT OF THE WEEK

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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]

+ PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Savior. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYERS FOR CITIES

Heavenly Father, in your Word you have given us a vision of that Holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, the cities of the earth. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice, and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with differing talents may find with one another the fulfillment of their humanity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYER ATTRIBUTED TO ST FRANCIS

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **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.***

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+ **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 road rise to meet you,  
may the wind be always at your back,  
may the sun shine warm upon your face,  
may the rains fall soft upon your fields,  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of his hand. **Amen.**

(TRADITIONAL GAELIC PRAYER)