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Wednesday, September 2, 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

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 17

Antiphon:

***Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye;  
hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.***

- <sup>1</sup> Hear a just cause, O LORD; attend to my cry;  
give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit.
- <sup>2</sup> From you let my vindication come;  
let your eyes see the right.
- <sup>3</sup> If you try my heart, if you visit me by night,  
if you test me, you will find no wickedness in me;  
my mouth does not transgress.
- <sup>4</sup> As for what others do, by the word of your lips  
I have avoided the ways of the violent.
- <sup>5</sup> My steps have held fast to your paths;  
my feet have not slipped. ***Antiphon***
- <sup>6</sup> I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God;  
incline your ear to me, hear my words.

- <sup>7</sup> Wondrously show your steadfast love,  
O savior of those who seek refuge  
from their adversaries at your right hand.
- <sup>8</sup> Guard me as the apple of the eye;  
hide me in the shadow of your wings,  
<sup>9</sup> from the wicked who despoil me,  
my deadly enemies who surround me.
- <sup>10</sup> They close their hearts to pity;  
with their mouths they speak arrogantly. ***Antiphon***
- <sup>11</sup> They track me down; now they surround me;  
they set their eyes to cast me to the ground.
- <sup>12</sup> They are like a lion eager to tear,  
like a young lion lurking in ambush.
- <sup>13</sup> Rise up, O LORD, confront them, overthrow them!  
By your sword deliver my life from the wicked,  
<sup>14</sup> from mortals—by your hand, O LORD—  
from mortals whose portion in life is in this world.  
May their bellies be filled with what you have stored up for  
them;  
may their children have more than enough;  
may they leave something over to their little ones.
- <sup>15</sup> As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness;  
when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

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

***Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye;  
hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.***

Silence

+ **WORD: Matthew 12:22-32** NRSV

<sup>22</sup> Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. <sup>23</sup> All the crowds were amazed and said, "Can this be the Son of David?" <sup>24</sup> But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons." <sup>25</sup> He knew what they were thinking and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. <sup>26</sup> If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup> If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup> But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. <sup>29</sup> Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the

house can be plundered. <sup>30</sup> Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup> Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

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*.**

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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*.

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

**“Being filled with the Spirit is simply this –  
having my whole nature yielded to His power.  
When the whole soul is yielded to the Holy Spirit,  
God Himself will fill it.”**

*Andrew Murray, Absolute Surrender*

Silent reflection

#### + 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

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; 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 AMONG THE NATIONS

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+ PRAYER FOR PROTECTION

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of *thy* servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by *thy* gracious and ready help; 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]

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+ **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 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)