

Saturday, April 17, 2021

You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts 1:8

* **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.

* **REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM**

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.

* OSL

**Satisfy us in the morning
with your steadfast love, O God,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

* **CANTICLE OF THE RESURRECTION**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

therefore let us keep the feast,
not with the old leaven of malice and evil,
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ being raised from the dead

will never die again;

death no longer has dominion over him.

**The death he died, he died to sin, once for all,
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**

So consider yourselves dead to sin
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

For as in Adam all die,

so also in Christ shall all be made alive. * OSL

* **MORNING PRAYER**

The Holy One* be with you;

And also with you.

Let us pray:

**Give us, O Lord, steadfast hearts, which no unworthy
thought can drag downward, unconquered hearts,
which no tribulation can wear out, upright hearts,
which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside.**

Bestow upon us also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(SAINT THOMAS, ITALY, 13TH CENT.)

* **WORD:** Daniel 3:19-30 CEV

¹⁹ Nebuchadnezzar's face twisted with anger at the three men. And he ordered the furnace to be heated seven times hotter than usual. ²⁰ Next, he commanded some of his strongest soldiers to tie up the men and throw them into the flaming furnace. ²¹⁻²³ The king wanted it done at that very moment. So the soldiers tied up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and threw them into the flaming furnace with all of their clothes still on, including their turbans. The fire was so hot that flames leaped out and killed the soldiers.

²⁴ Suddenly the king jumped up and shouted, "Weren't only three men tied up and thrown into the fire?"

"Yes, Your Majesty," the people answered.

²⁵ "But I see four men walking around in the fire," the king replied. "None of them is tied up or harmed, and the fourth one looks like a god."

²⁶ Nebuchadnezzar went closer to the flaming furnace and said to the three young men, "You servants of the Most High God, come out at once!"

They came out, ²⁷ and the king's high officials, governors, and advisors all crowded around them. The men were not burned, their hair wasn't scorched, and their clothes didn't even smell like smoke. ²⁸ King Nebuchadnezzar said:

Praise their God for sending an angel to rescue his servants! They trusted their God and refused to obey my commands. Yes, they chose to die rather than to worship or serve any god except their own. ²⁹ And I won't allow people of any nation or race to say anything against their God. Anyone who does will be chopped up and their houses will be torn down, because no other god has such great power to save.

³⁰ After this happened, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to even higher positions in Babylon Province.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **Psalm 20** NRSV

The LORD answer you in the day of trouble!

Our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.

¹ The LORD answer you in the day of trouble!

The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

² May he send you help from the sanctuary,

and give you support from Zion.

³ May he remember all your offerings,

and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices. *Selah*

⁴ May he grant you your heart's desire,

and fulfill all your plans.

⁵ May we shout for joy over your victory,

and in the name of our God set up our banners.

May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

⁶ Now I know that the LORD will help his anointed;

he will answer him from his holy heaven

with mighty victories by his right hand.

⁷ Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,

but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.

⁸ They will collapse and fall,

but we shall rise and stand upright.

⁹ Give victory to the king, O LORD;

answer us when we call.

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,

one God, now and for-ever, *A-men*.

The LORD answer you in the day of trouble!

Our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **WORD:** **Luke 4:1-13** CEV

When Jesus returned from the Jordan River, the power of the Holy Spirit was with him, and the Spirit led him into the desert. ² For forty days Jesus was tested by the devil, and during that time he went without eating. When it was all over, he was hungry.

³ The devil said to Jesus, "If you are God's Son, tell this stone to turn into bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say, 'No one can live only on food.'"

⁵ Then the devil led Jesus up to a high place and quickly showed him all the nations on earth. ⁶ The devil said, "I

will give all this power and glory to you. It has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ Just worship me, and you can have it all.”

⁸ Jesus answered, “The Scriptures say:

‘Worship the Lord your God
and serve only him!’”

⁹ Finally, the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem and had him stand on top of the temple. The devil said, “If you are God’s Son, jump off. ¹⁰⁻¹¹ The Scriptures say:

‘God will tell his angels
to take care of you.
They will catch you
in their arms,
and you will not hurt
your feet on the stones.’”

¹² Jesus answered, “The Scriptures also say, ‘Don’t try to test the Lord your God!’”

¹³ After the devil had finished testing Jesus in every way possible, he left him for a while.

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.

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

* **THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sits at the right hand of the Father Almighty.
From there he shall come again to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,*

*the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

* SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

* **PRAYERS**

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

Let us pray: (*stop and pray for those on your heart today*)

* FOR A SICK PERSON

*O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only
help in time of need: We humbly ask you to recognize,
visit, and relieve your sick servants for whom our
prayers are desired. Look upon them with the eyes of
your mercy; comfort them with a sense of your
goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the
enemy; and give them patience under their affliction.
In your good time, restore them to health, and enable*

them to live the remainder of their lives in your awe, and to your glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with you in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* PRAYER FOR THE HUMAN FAMILY

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* **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.*

* COLLECT OF THE WEEK

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

* PRAYER OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

*Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time
with one accord to make our common supplication to
you; and you have promised through your well-
beloved Son that when two or three are gathered*

*together in his Name you will be in the midst of them:
Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may
be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of
your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting.
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.**

* **BLESSING**

Brothers and sisters, let me leave you with a blessing:
May peace and love with faith be yours from God the
Father and the Lord Jesus the Anointed. May His grace
surround all who love our Lord Jesus the Anointed with a
never-ending love. **Amen!**

Ephesians 6:23-24 The VOICE

Morning Prayer

A ministry of the faithful at
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