



Wednesday Morning Prayer 29 April 2020

Rejoice always; pray without ceasing;
in everything give thanks;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5.16–18

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

2 The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Grace

Blessed are you,
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:
for you have blessed us in Christ Jesus
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
You chose us to be yours in Christ
before the foundation of the world:
that we should be holy and blameless before you.
In love you destined us to be your children,
through Jesus Christ:
according to the purpose of your will,
To the praise of your glorious grace:
which you freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1.3–6

3 The Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

Amen.

4 The Psalms as appointed. A pause is observed after each.

Psalm 145

¹ I will exalt you, O God my king:

I will bless your name for ever and ever.

² Every day will I bless you:

and praise your name for ever and ever.

³ Great is the Lord, and wonderfully worthy to be praised:

his greatness is past searching out.

⁴ One generation shall praise your works to another:

and declare your mighty acts.

⁵ As for me, I will be talking

of the glorious splendour of your majesty:

I will tell the story of your marvellous works.

⁶ All people shall speak of the power of your terrible deeds:

and I will proclaim your greatness.

⁷ Their lips shall flow with the remembrance

of your abundant goodness:

they shall shout for joy at your righteousness.

⁸ The Lord is gracious and compassionate:

slow to anger and of great goodness.

⁹ The Lord is loving to every one of us:

- and his mercy is over all his works.
- ¹⁰ All creation praises you, O Lord:
and your faithful servants bless your name.
- ¹¹ They speak of the glory of your kingdom:
and tell of your great might,
- ¹² That the whole earth may know your mighty acts:
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom:
and your dominion endures through all generations.
- ¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who stumble:
and raises up those that are bowed down.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you in hope:
and you give them their food in due season;
- ¹⁶ You open wide your hand:
and fill all things living with your bounteous gift.
- ¹⁷ The Lord is just in all his ways:
and faithful in all his dealings.
- ¹⁸ The Lord is near to all who call upon him:
to all who call upon him in truth.
- ¹⁹ He will fulfil the desire of those that fear him:
he will hear their cry, and save them.
- ²⁰ The Lord preserves all those that love him:
but the wicked he will utterly destroy.
- ²¹ My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord:
and let all flesh bless his holy name, for ever and ever.

Alternate Psalm

Psalm 103

- ¹ Praise the Lord, O my soul:
and all that is within me, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the Lord, O my soul:
and forget not all his benefits,
- ³ Who forgives all your sin:
and heals all your infirmities,
- ⁴ Who redeems your life from the Pit:

- and crowns you with mercy and compassion;
- ⁵ Who satisfies your being with good things:
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶ The Lord works righteousness:
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses:
and his works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸ The Lord is full of compassion and mercy:
slow to anger and of great goodness.
- ⁹ He will not always be chiding:
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- ¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins:
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth:
so great is his mercy over those that fear him;
- ¹² As far as the east is from the west:
so far has he set our sins from us.
- ¹³ As a father is tender towards his children:
so is the Lord tender to those that fear him.
- ¹⁴ For he knows of what we are made:
he remembers that we are but dust.
- ¹⁵ Our days are but as grass:
we flourish like a flower of the field;
- ¹⁶ When the wind goes over it, it is gone:
and its place will know it no more.
- ¹⁷ But the merciful goodness of the Lord
endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him:
and his righteousness upon their children's children;
- ¹⁸ Upon those who keep his covenant:
and remember his commandments to do them.
- ¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in heaven:
and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ Praise the Lord, all you his angels,

you that excel in strength:
you that fulfil his word,
and obey the voice of his commandment.

²¹ Praise the Lord, all you his hosts:
his servants who do his will.

²² Praise the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion:
praise the Lord, O my soul!

5 At the end of the (last) pause there may follow

We consecrate this day to your service, O Lord; may all our thoughts, words, and actions be well-pleasing to you and serve the good of our brothers and sisters; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

6 One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.

1st Reading

Leviticus 24

¹ The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ² Command the people of Israel to bring you pure oil of beaten olives for the lamp, that a light may be kept burning regularly. ³ Aaron shall set it up in the tent of meeting, outside the curtain of the covenant, to burn from evening to morning before the Lord regularly; it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations. ⁴ He shall set up the lamps on the lampstand of pure gold before the Lord regularly. ⁵ You shall take choice flour, and bake twelve loaves of it; two-tenths of an ephah shall be in each loaf. ⁶ You shall place them in two rows, six in a row, on the table of pure gold. ⁷ You shall put pure frankincense with each row, to be a token offering for the bread, as an offering by fire to the Lord. ⁸ Every sabbath day Aaron shall set them in order before the Lord regularly as a commitment of the people of Israel, as a covenant for ever. ⁹ They shall be for Aaron and his descendants, who shall eat them in a holy place, for they are most holy portions for him from the offerings by fire to the Lord, a perpetual due. ¹⁰ A man whose mother was an Israelite and whose father was an Egyptian came out among the people of Israel; and the Israelite woman's

son and a certain Israelite began fighting in the camp. ¹¹ The Israelite woman's son blasphemed the Name in a curse. And they brought him to Moses—now his mother's name was Shelomith, daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan— ¹² and they put him in custody, until the decision of the Lord should be made clear to them. ¹³ The Lord said to Moses, saying: ¹⁴ Take the blasphemer outside the camp; and let all who were within hearing lay their hands on his head, and let the whole congregation stone him. ¹⁵ And speak to the people of Israel, saying: Anyone who curses God shall bear the sin. ¹⁶ One who blasphemes the name of the Lord shall be put to death; the whole congregation shall stone the blasphemer. Aliens as well as citizens, when they blaspheme the Name, shall be put to death. ¹⁷ Anyone who kills a human being shall be put to death. ¹⁸ Anyone who kills an animal shall make restitution for it, life for life. ¹⁹ Anyone who maims another shall suffer the same injury in return: ²⁰ fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth; the injury inflicted is the injury to be suffered. ²¹ One who kills an animal shall make restitution for it; but one who kills a human being shall be put to death. ²² You shall have one law for the alien and for the citizen: for I am the Lord your God. ²³ Moses spoke thus to the people of Israel; and they took the blasphemer outside the camp, and stoned him to death. The people of Israel did as the Lord had commanded Moses.

2nd Reading

John 9.24-41

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' ²⁵ He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' ²⁶ They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' ²⁷ He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' ³⁰ The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could

do nothing.’³⁴ They answered him, ‘You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?’ And they drove him out.³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’³⁶ He answered, ‘And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.’³⁷ Jesus said to him, ‘You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.’³⁸ He said, ‘Lord, I believe.’ And he worshipped him.³⁹ Jesus said, ‘I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.’⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, ‘Surely we are not blind, are we?’⁴¹ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, “We see”, your sin remains.

The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn or

May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

7 The Canticle, Te Deum Laudamus

We praise you, O God:
we acclaim you as Lord.
All creation worships you:
the Father everlasting.
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven:
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
The glorious company of apostles praise you:
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you:
Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaims you:
Father, of majesty unbounded:
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
You, Christ, are the King of glory:
the eternal Son of the Father.
When you took our flesh to set us free:
you humbly chose the virgin’s womb.
You overcame the sting of death:
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
You are seated at God’s right hand in glory:

We believe that you will come to be our judge.
Come then, Lord, and help your people,
bought with the price of your own blood:
and bring us with your saints
to glory everlasting.

8 The Apostles' Creed may be said.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come 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.**

9 The Prayers

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

10 The Lord's Prayer and the Collect of the Day

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Wednesday

Prayer of the day [A Teacher]

Almighty God,
who gave to your servant N special gifts of grace
to understand and teach the truth in Christ Jesus:
grant that, enlightened by this teaching,
we may know you, the one true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. Amen.

Prayer of the Week

Third Sunday of Easter

Gracious Father,
who in your great mercy made glad the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such awareness of his presence with us
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life,
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*11 Intercessions and Thanksgivings may be made according to local custom
and need.*

12 The Morning Collect

Eternal God and Father,
by whose power we are created
and by whose love we are redeemed:
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,

that we may give ourselves to your service,
and live this day in love
to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

13

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in such
harmony with one another in accord with Christ Jesus, that we may with one
voice glorify our God and Father.
Amen.

Romans 15.5–6

Acknowledgements:

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The Anglican Diocese in conjunction with St Mary's Anglican Church North Melbourne does not tolerate abuse, harassment or other misconduct within our communities. If any person has concerns about behavior of a church worker, past or present. The Diocese of Melbourne is committed to doing all that is possible to ensure that abuse does not occur. All complaints of abuse are taken very seriously, and we do all we can to lessen harm. We offer respect, pastoral care and ongoing long-term support to anyone who makes a complaint. St Mary's Statement of Commitment to Child Safety is on our noticeboard and can be downloaded from our website www.stmarys.org.au.

PLEASE REPORT ABUSE CALL 1800 135 246

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Anglican Church, North Melbourne is an inner-city Christian community that strives to be faithful, inclusive and sacramental.

God inspires us to worship in daily celebration; to be caring, thoughtful and inviting.

In response to God's call, in the next three to five years we aim:

- *To grow substantially in faith and numbers*
- *To create an inter-generational culture that values all age groups - children and adults - equally*
- *To express our faith in active engagement within and beyond our own community*
- *To deploy our property and financial assets in strategic support of the ministry needs of the parish for the long term*
- *To become more open to change as we learn to grow*

