

**Friday Morning Prayer**

## 12 March 2021

**Friday Morning**

Through Christ let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God,

**the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.**

*Hebrews 13.15*

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

*The Opening Canticle, A Song of God’s Grace*

We have complete freedom:  
to go into the most holy place by means of the death of Jesus.  
He opened for us a new way, a living way:  
through the curtain, through his own body.  
Since we have a great high priest  
set over the household of God:  
let us draw near with a sincere heart and a sure faith,  
With hearts that have been made clean  
from a guilty conscience:  
and bodies washed with pure water.

*Hebrews 10.19–22*

*The Opening Prayer*

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;

let us pray with one heart and mind.

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.**

**Psalm 33**

**1** Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:

for it befits the just to praise him.

**2** Give the Lord thanks upon the harp:

and sing his praise to the lute of ten strings.

**3** O sing him a new song:

make sweetest melody, with shouts of praise.

**4** For the word of the Lord is true:

and all his works are faithful.

**5** He loves righteousness and justice:

the earth is filled with the loving-kindness of the Lord.

**6** By the word of the Lord were the heavens made:

and their numberless stars by the breath of his mouth.

**7** He gathered the waters of the sea as in a water-skin:

and laid up the deep in his treasuries.

**8** Let the whole earth fear the Lord:

and let all the inhabitants of the world

stand in awe of him.

**9** For he spoke, and it was done:

he commanded, and it stood fast.

**10** The Lord frustrates the counsels of the nations:

he brings to nothing the devices of the peoples.

**11** But the counsels of the Lord shall endure for ever:

the purposes of his heart from generation to generation.

**12** Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord:

the people he chose to be his own possession.

**13** The Lord looks down from heaven

and surveys all the children of Adam:

he considers from his dwelling-place

all the inhabitants of the earth;

**14** He who fashioned the hearts of them all:

and comprehends all that they do.

**15** A king is not saved by a mighty army:

nor is a warrior delivered by much strength;

**16** A horse is a vain hope as a deliverer:

nor can he rescue any by his great power.

**17** But the eye of the Lord is on those that fear him:

on those that trust in his unfailing love,

**18** To deliver them from death:

and to feed them in the time of dearth.

**19** We have waited eagerly for the Lord:

for he is our help and our shield.

**20** Surely our hearts shall rejoice in him:

for we have trusted in his holy name.

**21** Let your merciful kindness be upon us, O Lord:

even as our hope is in you.

Holy God, through your beloved Son you reconciled all things to yourself, making peace by the blood of his cross: fill us and those for whom we pray with your peace and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**1st Reading**

**Genesis 49.22-50.6**

**49** **22** ‘Joseph is a fruitful bough,  
     a fruitful bough by a spring;  
     his branches run over the wall.  
**23** The archers fiercely attacked him;  
     they shot at him and pressed him hard.  
**24** Yet his bow remained taut,  
     and his arms were made agile  
by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob,  
     by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,  
**25** by the God of your father, who will help you,  
     by the Almighty who will bless you  
     with blessings of heaven above,  
blessings of the deep that lies beneath,  
     blessings of the breasts and of the womb.  
**26** The blessings of your father  
     are stronger than the blessings of the eternal mountains,  
     the bounties of the everlasting hills;  
may they be on the head of Joseph,  
     on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.  
**27** ‘Benjamin is a ravenous wolf,  
     in the morning devouring the prey,  
     and at evening dividing the spoil.’  
**28** All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing.  
**29** Then he charged them, saying to them, ‘I am about to be gathered to my people. Bury me with my ancestors—in the cave in the field of Ephron the Hittite,  
**30** in the cave in the field at Machpelah, near Mamre, in the land of Canaan, in the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite as a burial site.  
**31** There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried; there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried; and there I buried Leah—  
**32** the field and the cave that is in it were purchased from the Hittites.’  
**33** When Jacob ended his charge to his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed, breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

**50**  
**1** Then Joseph threw himself on his father’s face and wept over him and kissed him.  
**2** Joseph commanded the physicians in his service to embalm his father. So the physicians embalmed Israel;  
**3** they spent forty days in doing this, for that is the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians wept for him for seventy days.  
**4** When the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph addressed the household of Pharaoh, ‘If now I have found favour with you, please speak to Pharaoh as follows:  
**5** My father made me swear an oath; he said, “I am about to die. In the tomb that I hewed out for myself in the land of Canaan, there you shall bury me.” Now therefore let me go up, so that I may bury my father; then I will return.’  
**6** Pharaoh answered, ‘Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear to do.’

**2nd Reading**

**Luke 17.1-19**

**1** Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to anyone by whom they come! **2** It would be better for you if a millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea than for you to cause one of these little ones to stumble. **3** Be on your guard! If another disciple sins, you must rebuke the offender, and if there is repentance, you must forgive. **4** And if the same person sins against you seven times a day, and turns back to you seven times and says, “I repent”, you must forgive.’ **5** The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’ **6** The Lord replied, ‘If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea”, and it would obey you. **7** ‘Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, “Come here at once and take your place at the table”? **8** Would you not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink”? **9** Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? **10** So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!” ’ **11** On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. **12** As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, **13** they called out, saying, ‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!’ **14** When he saw them, he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were made clean. **15** Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. **16** He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. **17** Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? **18** Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ **19** Then he said to him, ‘Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.’

May your word live in us

**and bear much fruit to your glory.**

*The Canticle, Saviour of the World*

Jesus, Saviour of the world,

come to us in your mercy:

we look to you to save and help us.

By your cross and your life laid down,

you set your people free:

we look to you to save and help us.

When they were ready to perish,

you saved your disciples:

we look to you to come to our help.

In the greatness of your mercy,

loose us from our chains:

forgive the sins of all your people.

Make yourself known as our saviour

and mighty deliverer:

save and help us that we may praise you.

Come now and dwell with us, Lord Christ Jesus:

hear our prayer and be with us always.

And when you come in your glory:

make us to be one with you

and to share the life of your kingdom.

Lord have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy.

*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 for ever. Amen.**

*Prayer of the Day*

Lord God, our Redeemer,

who heard the cry of your people

and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery:

free us from the tyranny of sin and death

and, by the leading of your Spirit,

bring us to our promised land;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

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

*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.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us praise the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Peace be to us all, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*Ephesians 6.23*