

Morning Prayer

Tuesday - Week 2



(Please stand)

God, come to my assistance

—Lord, make haste to help me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

—as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen.

Morning Hymn: “Morning Has Broken”

1. Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where his feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise ev’ry morning, God’s recreation of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965. Tune: BUNESSAN, Gaelic.

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; Indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins. A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; The rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has

spoken. A voice says, "Cry out!" I answer, "What shall I cry out?" "All flesh is grass, and all their glory like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower wilts, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it. So then, the people is the grass. Though the grass withers and the flower wilts, the word of our God stands forever." Go up onto a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; Cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; Here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, Carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

Psalm 43

- L: Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!
- R: For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy?
- L: O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.
- R: Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.
- L: Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why do you groan within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

Psalm Prayer

Almighty God, source of everlasting light, send forth your truth into our hearts and pour over us the brightness of your light.

(Antiphon all together)

Ant: Lord, send forth your light and your truth.

Psalm 42: "Song of the Exile"

Please repeat refrain after cantor the first time:

As a deer longs for running streams, so my soul longs for Thee, and my heart thirsts for the God of my life. When shall I go to see the face of God?

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Psalm Prayer

Lord God, hope of all the earth, hear the humble prayer of your children as we sing your praises. Pour out your Spirit on us so that our lives may bear fruit abundantly.

Reading: Matthew 18:12-14

Jesus said to his disciples: "What is your thought on this? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

Reflection

Song: Canticle of Zechariah

Now bless the God of Israel who comes in love and power, who raises from the royal house deliv'rance in this hour. Through holy prophets God has sworn to free us from alarm, to save us from the heavy hand of all who wish us harm.

Remembering the covenant, God rescues us from fear, that we might serve in holiness and peace from year to year. And you, my child, shall go before, to preach, to prophesy, that all may know the tender love, the grace of God most high.

In tender mercy, God will send the dayspring from on high, our rising sun, the light of life for those who sit and sigh. God comes to guide our way to peace, that death shall reign no more. Sing praises to the Holy One, O worship and adore.

Text: Benedictus, Luke 1:68-79, Ruth Dick © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

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Intercessions:-- Response: Lord hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, help us to look forward to the glory of the birth of Christ our Savior: his coming is proclaimed joyfully to the ends of the earth, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Dismissal

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

—Amen.