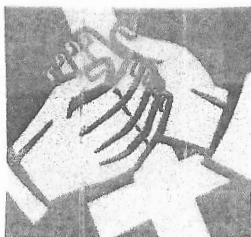


MORNING PRAYER

Twelfth Wednesday in Ordinary Time



Please Stand

O Lord, open my lips

And my mouth will declare your praise

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: *Canticle of the Son*

*The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy,
Come dance in the forest, come play in the field and sing, sing to the glory of
the Lord. (Last time: And sing, sing to the glory of the Lord.)*

1. *Praise to the sun, the bringer of day, he carries the light of the Lord in his
rays, the moon and the stars, who light up the way unto your throne.*

2. *Praise to the wind, that blows through the trees, the seas mighty storms,
the gentlest breeze, they blow where they will, they blow where they please,
to please the Lord..*

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Reading: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Some time after; these events, this word of the Lord came to Abram in a
vision:

"Fear not, Abram!

I am your shield;

I will make your reward very great."

But Abram said, "O Lord God, what good will your gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my heir the steward of my house, Eliezer. Abram continued,, "See, you have given me no offspring, and so one of my servants will be my heir." Then the word of the Lord came to him: "No, that one shall not be your heir; your own issue shall be your heir." He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the Lord, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

He then said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you up from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O Lord God," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him.

When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking brazier and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River [the Euphrates].

Psalm 27: " The Lord is my Light"

Please repeat refrain after cantor the first time and sing after each verse.

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my help, the Lord is my salvation.

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Psalmody

Antiphon (please repeat after Leader)

Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.

L. Instruct me, O Lord, in the way of your statutes, that I may exactly observe them

R. Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all

my heart.

L. Lead me in the path of your commands, for in it I delight.

R. Incline my heart to your decrees and not to gain.

L. Turn away my eyes from seeing what is vain; by your way give me life.

R. Behold, I long for your precepts; in your justice give me life.

Psalm Prayer

May the Word of God dwell in us richly so that, with gratitude in our hearts, we may sing praise to God all our days.

Antiphon (all together)

Teach me the way of your decrees, O Lord.

Reading: Matthew 7:15-20

“Be on your guard against false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but underneath are wolves on the prowl. You will know them by their deeds. Do you ever pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from prickly plants? Never! Any sound tree bears good fruit, while a decayed tree bears bad fruit. A sound tree cannot bear bad fruit any more than a decayed tree can bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. You can tell a tree by its fruit.”

Reflection

Song: *We Walk by Faith*

1. We walk by faith and not by sight, no gracious words we hear of him who spoke as none e’er spoke, yet we believe him near.

2. We may not touch his hands or side, nor follow where he trod, yet in his promise we rejoice, and cry, “My Lord and God!”

3. Help then, O Lord, our unbelief and may our faith abound, to call on you when you are near, and seek where you are found.

4. That when our life of faith is done in realms of clearer light we may behold you as you are in full and endless sight.

5. We walk by faith and not by sight: no gracious words we hear of him who spoke as none e're spoke, yet we believe him near.

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Intercessions

Lord's Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Closing Prayer

May the Word of God bear good fruit in our lives, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dismissal

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

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