



MORNING PRAYER

FOR SATURDAY

IN THE TWELFTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God has shone in our hearts,
**to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.**

2 Corinthians 4.6

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

The Opening Canticle, A Song of Creation

Bless the Lord all created things:
who is worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Bless the Lord all people of the earth:
who is worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
O people of God bless the Lord:
bless the Lord you priests of the Lord,
Bless the Lord you servants of the Lord:
who is worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.
Bless the Lord all you of upright spirit:
bless the Lord you that are holy and humble in heart.
Bless the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit:
who is worthy to be praised and exalted for ever.

The Opening Prayer is said.

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.**

Psalm 140

- 1 Deliver me, O Lord, from evildoers:
and preserve me from the violent.
- 2 Who devise mischief in their hearts:
who stir up enmity day by day.
- 3 They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent's:
and the venom of asps is under their lips.
- 4 Keep me, O Lord, from the power of the wicked:
preserve me from the violent,
who think to thrust me from my course.
- 5 The arrogant have laid a snare for me,
and rogues have stretched the net:
they have set traps along my way.
- 6 But I have said to the Lord 'You are my God':
hear, O Lord, the voice of my pleading.
- 7 O Lord my God and my sure stronghold:
you have covered my head in the day of battle.
- 8 Do not fulfil, O Lord, the desire of the wicked:
nor further the evil that they have devised.
- 9 Let not those that beset me lift their heads:
but let the mischief that is on their lips bury them.
- 10 Let hot burning coals be poured upon them:
let them be plunged into that miry pit
from which they shall never arise.
- 11 Let no one of evil tongue find footing in the land:
the evil, the violent – let them be hunted to the end.
- 12 I know that the Lord will work justice for the oppressed:
and right judgements for the poor.
- 13 Surely the righteous shall have cause to praise your name:
and the just shall dwell in your sight.

At the end of the psalm there is a short pause. The following is then said.

Creator God,
whose praise and power are proclaimed
by the whole creation:
receive our morning prayers, we pray,
and renew us in your service;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Reading Acts 13: 42-52

As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the people urged them to speak about these things again the next sabbath. When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy; and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul. Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, 'It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, "I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth." '

When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the word of the Lord; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread throughout the region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, and stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their region. So they shook the dust off their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

The Canticle, A Song of Redemption.

**Christ is the image of the invisible God:
the first-born of all creation.**

The Father has delivered us from the dominion of darkness,
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son;

In whom we have redemption,
the forgiveness of our sins.

For in him all things were created:
in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

All things were created through him and for him:
he is before all things
and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church:
he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead.

For it pleased God that in him
all fullness should dwell:
and through him all things be reconciled to himself.

**Christ is the image of the invisible God:
the first-born of all creation.**

The Prayers

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

**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. Amen.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we to pray,
and give more than either we desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid,
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask,
save through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ,
your Son our Lord. Amen.

In faith and hope, let us pray to the Lord.

(Use the Intercessions in the Weekly Bulletin, or these below, or observe a time of silence.)

For our federal and state governments: for wisdom, integrity and understanding in dealing with the current health and economic issues.

For our local councils and community groups: for your guidance as they seek to find ways to keep people connected through this pandemic.

For ourselves, our work colleagues, our families as we each deal with the issues of isolation and dislocation: that we might listen to your voice of calm and be more attuned to your presence with us.

For all medical personnel, aged care workers and administrators: that they be given peace in this time of stress and anxiety.

For all who suffer from COVID-19 and those who care for them; and for those for whom we regularly pray, including Marina, Margaret Diana, Eric, Ron, Bill, Shirley, Godfrey, Robert: that your blessing of healing will be with them.

For those who have died, including Roslyn Young, Alan Buchanan, Peter Sheppard; and for those whose year's mind occurs at this time, Pearl Chivers, Edna Ward, Arthur Edmondson, Andrew Costello, Joan Allport, Helen Limbrick, Margaret Fitze, Gwen Tomlinson: that they, and all the faithful departed, may find a place of refreshment, light and peace, in your eternal kingdom.

We entrust to you our families and our friends, all who have asked for our prayers and who pray for us.

Lord and heavenly Father,
you have brought us safely to this new day:
keep us by your mighty power, protect us from sin,
guard us from every kind of danger,
and in all we do this day
direct us in the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

May the peace of God which passes all understanding
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.