



MORNING PRAYER

FOR THURSDAY IN

THE TWELFTH WEEK OF THE YEAR

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

This is the message we have heard from Christ:
**that God is light, in whom there is
no darkness at all.**

1 John 1.5

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 Herald

Go up to a high mountain
herald of good tidings to Zion:
 lift up your voice with strength,
 herald of good tidings to Jerusalem.
Lift up your voice, fear not:
 say to the cities of Judah, 'Behold your God!'
See the Lord God, coming with power:
 coming to rule with his mighty arm.
He brings his reward for the people of God:
 the recompense for those who are saved.
God will feed his flock like a shepherd:
 and gather the lambs in his arms;
He will hold them to his breast:
 and gently lead those that are with young.

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,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 135

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the name of the Lord:
praise him, you servants of the Lord,
- 2 Who stand in the house of the Lord:
in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is gracious:
sing praises to his name, for it is good.
- 4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself:
and Israel as his own possession.
- 5 I know that the Lord is great:
and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 He does whatever he wills, in heaven and upon the earth:
in the seas and in the great depths.
- 7 He brings up clouds from the ends of the earth:
he makes lightning for the rain
and brings the wind out of his storehouses.
- 8 He struck down the first-born of Egypt:
both man and beast alike.
- 9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt:
against Pharaoh and against all his servants.
- 10 He struck down great nations:
and slew mighty kings,
- 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Bashan:
and all the princes of Canaan.
- 12 He made over their land as a heritage:
a heritage for Israel his people.
- 13 O Lord, your name shall endure for ever:
so shall your renown, throughout all generations.
- 14 For the Lord will vindicate his people:
he will take pity on his servants.
- 15 As for the idols of the nations,
they are but silver and gold:
the work of human hands.
- 16 They have mouths, but speak not:
they have eyes, but they cannot see.
- 17 They have ears, yet hear nothing:
there is no breath in their nostrils.

18 Those who make them shall be like them:
so shall everyone that trusts in them.
19 Bless the Lord, O house of Israel:
bless the Lord, O house of Aaron.
20 Bless the Lord, O house of Levi:
you that fear the Lord, bless the Lord.
21 Blessed be the Lord from Zion:
he that dwells in Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

Almighty God,
who wonderfully created us in your own image
and yet more wonderfully restored us in your Son Jesus Christ:
grant that, as he came to share our human nature,
so we may be partakers in his divine glory;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading Acts 13: 13-25

Then Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, left them and returned to Jerusalem; but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, 'Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.' So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

'You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet."

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

The Canticle: The Hymn of the Word

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God,
And the Word was God:
He was in the beginning with God.
All things were made through him:
and without him, was not anything made that was made.
In him was life:
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness:
and the darkness has not overcome it.
He was in the world:
and the world was made through him
yet the world knew him not.
He came to his own home:
and his own people received him not.
But to all who received him who believed on his name:
he has given power to become children of God;
Who were born not of blood
nor of the will of the flesh:
nor of the will of a man but of God.
And the Word became flesh:
and dwelt among us full of grace and truth;
We have beheld his glory:
glory as of the only Son from the Father.
And from his fullness have we all received:
and grace upon grace.

The Prayers

Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

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.**

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.

The Prayers

We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth and for the fruitful rain. Give us and all peoples grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.

We give thanks for leaders who serve the common good. Give wisdom to our leaders at Federal, State and local levels, especially as they seek to serve their people with integrity, and with concern for their health and material needs.

We pray that we may share with justice the resources of the world, and work together in trust.

We give thanks for this land and the diversity of its peoples. Grant that we may so honour one another that all may be enriched by our common heritage and freed from despair, poverty and exclusion.

We give thanks for those with whom we share our common life. Strengthen us for our work in the world, empower your Church to proclaim the gospel in service, word and sacrament. Unite in the truth all who confess your name, that we may live together in love to your glory.

We give thanks for the fellowship of the communities in which we live and work. We commend to your keeping ourselves and each other, our families, those with whom we work and learn, our neighbours and our friends. Enable us by your Spirit to live in love for you and for one another.

We give thanks that you are the God who brings mercy and wholeness. We pray for the sick, especially Marina, Margaret Diana, Eric, Ron, Bill, Shirley, Godfrey, Robert, and those who suffer from coronavirus or are in isolation, uncertain of their

diagnosis, those isolated far from home and those who struggle with self-isolation; bring them healing and peace.

We pray for those who have recently died, including 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. May they and all the faithful departed find a place of eternal refreshment, light and peace.

The Morning Collect

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 God of peace equip us with everything good so that we may do his will; and may he work in us that which is pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**