

MORNING PRAYER FOR PASSIONTIDE

1 God's love has been poured into our hearts,
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Romans 5.5

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

2 The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Marvellous Acts

I will sing a new hymn to my God:
O Lord you are great and marvellous,
you are marvellous in your strength, invincible.
Let the whole creation serve you:
for you spoke and all things came to be;
You sent out your Spirit and it formed them:
no one can resist your voice.
Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths:
rocks melt like wax at your presence;
But to those who revere you:
you still show mercy.

Judith 16.13-15

3 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,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.
Amen.

4 The Psalms as appointed. A pause is observed after each.

Psalm 72

- ¹ Give the king your judgement, O God:
and your righteousness to the son of a king,
- ² That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.
- ³ Let the mountains be laden with peace
because of his righteousness:
and the hills also with prosperity for his people.
- ⁴ May he give justice to the poor among the people:
and rescue the children of the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- ⁵ May he live while the sun endures:
and while the moon gives light,
throughout all generations.
- ⁶ May he come down like rain upon the new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon shall be no more.
- ⁸ His dominion shall stretch from sea to sea:
from the Great River to the ends of the earth.
- ⁹ His adversaries shall bow down before him:
and his enemies shall lick the dust.
- ¹⁰ The kings of Tarshish and of the isles
shall bring tribute:
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- ¹¹ All kings shall fall down before him:
and all nations do him service.
- ¹² He will deliver the needy when they cry:
and the poor that have no helper.
- ¹³ He will pity the helpless and the needy:
and save the lives of the poor.
- ¹⁴ He will redeem them from oppression and violence:

and their blood shall be precious in his sight.

¹⁵ Long may he live, and be given of the gold of Sheba:
may prayer be made for him continually,
may they bless him every day.

¹⁶ Let there be abundance of wheat in the land:
let it flourish on the tops of the mountains;

¹⁷ Let its ears grow fat like the grain of Lebanon:
and its sheaves thicken like the grass of the field.

¹⁸ Let his name live for ever:
and endure as long as the sun.

¹⁹ Let all peoples use his name in blessing:
and all nations call him blessed.

²⁰ Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel:
who alone does great wonders.

²¹ Blessed be his glorious name for ever:
and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.
Amen, Amen.

5 At the end of the (last) pause there may follow

Creator Spirit, Advocate promised by our Lord Jesus: increase our faith and help us to walk in the light of your presence, to the glory of God the Father; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

6 One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.

A reading from the Gospel according to St Matthew, chapter 21, beginning at verse 23.

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?'

²⁴ Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the

answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?"

²⁶ But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.'

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today."

²⁹ He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go.

³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

³³ 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.

³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce.

³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.

³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way.

³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son."

³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance."

³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?'

⁴¹ They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.'

⁴² Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes"?

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.

⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.'

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them.

⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn or
May your word live in us
and bear much fruit to your glory.

7 The Canticle, A Song of Isaiah

'Behold, God is my salvation:

I will trust and will not be afraid;

'For the Lord God is my strength and my song:
and has become my salvation.'

With joy you will draw water:
from the wells of salvation.

On that day you will say:

'Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;

'Make known his deeds among the nations:
proclaim that his name is exalted.

'Sing God's praises, who has triumphed gloriously:
let this be known in all the world.

'Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion:
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.'

Isaiah 12.2-6

8 The Apostles' Creed may be said.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

9 The Prayers

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

10 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.

Prayer of the Week

Fifth Sunday in Lent

We thank you, heavenly Father,
that you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
we pray that

as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his presence abiding in us he may raise us
to joys eternal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

12 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.

13

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us praise the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

God did not give us a spirit of cowardice
but a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.
May we rekindle the gift of God within us.
Amen.

see 2 Timothy 1.6–7

“From A Prayer Book for Australia Copyright © Broughton Publishing 1995”