

Easter

Prayer in the Middle of the Day

18-24 April 2021

Easter Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;

if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

Psalm 139.7

Praise

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ;

today I am glorified with him.

Yesterday I was dead with Christ;

today I am sharing in his resurrection.

Yesterday I was buried with him;

today I am waking with him from the sleep of death.

Gregory of Nazianzus (389)

The Word of God

Psalm

Reading

Response

Silence

Blessed are the peacemakers,

for they will be called children of God.

Matthew 5.9

Prayer

Prayers are offered

Prayer of the Season

Living God,
long ago, faithful women
proclaimed the good news
of Jesus' resurrection,
and the world was changed forever.
Teach us to keep faith with them,
that our witness may be as bold,
our love as deep,
and our faith as true. Amen.

followed by

Christ yesterday and today,
the beginning and the end,
Alpha and Omega,
all time belongs to you,
and all ages;
to you be glory and power
through every age and for ever. Amen

from the Easter Vigil

The Lord's Prayer

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 forever. Amen.

The Conclusion

May the risen Christ give us his peace. **Alleluia. Amen.**

Sunday

Psalm 24.1-6

- The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it: the compass of the world and those who dwell therein.
- 2 For he has founded it upon the seas: and established it upon the waters.
- Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord: or who shall stand in his holy place?
- Those who have clean hands and a pure heart: who have not set their soul upon idols, nor sworn their oath to a lie.
- 5 They shall receive blessing from the Lord: and recompense from the God of their salvation.
- 6 Of such a kind as this are those who seek him: those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

1 Corinthians 2.1-5

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Monday

Psalm 34.12-19

12 Which of you relishes life:

wants time to enjoy good things?

- 13 Keep your tongue from evil: and your lips from telling lies.
- 14 Turn from evil and do good: seek peace and pursue it.
- 15 The eyes of God are on the righteous: and his ears towards their cry.
- 16 The Lord sets his face against wrongdoers: to root out their memory from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry; the Lord hears it: and frees them from all their afflictions.
- 18 The Lord is close to those who are broken-hearted: and the crushed in spirit he saves.
- 19 The trials of the righteous are many: but our God delivers us from them all.

Revelation 20.4-6

Then I saw thrones, and those seated on them were given authority to judge. I also saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony to Jesus and for the word of God. They had not worshipped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. (The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.) This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. Over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ, and they will reign with him for a thousand years.

Tuesday

Psalm 99.1-2, 5-9

- The Lord is king, let the nations tremble:

 he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion:

he is high above all nations.

- 5 O exalt the Lord our God:
 - and bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests,
 - and Samuel among those who call upon his name:

they called to the Lord and he answered.

- 7 He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud:
 - they kept to his teachings and the law that he gave them.
- 8 You answered them, O Lord our God:

you were a forgiving God to them, and pardoned their wrongdoing.

- 9 O exalt the Lord our God:
 - and bow down towards his holy hill, for the Lord our God is holy.

Ephesians 1.18-23

So that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Wednesday

Psalm 80.2-8

- 2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh: stir up your power, and come to save us.
- 3 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts: show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts:

how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears: and given them tears to drink in good measure.
- 6 You have made us the victim of our neighbours: and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us again, O Lord of hosts: show us the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 8 You brought a vine out of Egypt: you drove out the nations, and planted it in.

1 Timothy 1.13-17

Even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Thursday

Psalm 89.2-8, 16-17

- I have said of your loving-kindness that it is built for ever: you have established your faithfulness in the heavens.
- 3 The Lord said 'I have made a covenant with my chosen: I have sworn an oath to my servant David.
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever: and build up your throne for all generations.'
- 5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord: and let your faithfulness be sung in the assembly of the holy ones.
- 6 For who amidst the clouds can be compared to the Lord: or who is like the Lord amongst the gods?
- A God to be feared in the council of the holy ones: 7 great and terrible above all that are around him.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, who is like you?: your power and your faithfulness are all about you.
- They rejoice all the day long because of your name: 16 because of your righteousness they are exalted.
- 17 For you are their glory and their strength: and our heads are uplifted by your favour.

Romans 10.11-15

The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

Friday

Psalm 78.1-7

- Give heed to my teaching, O my people: incline your ears to the words of my mouth;
- 2 For I will open my mouth in a parable: and expound the mysteries of former times.
- What we have heard and known: what our forebears have told us.
- We will not hide from their children, but declare to a generation yet to come: the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his mighty and wonderful works.
- 5 He established a law in Jacob and made a decree in Israel:
 which he commanded our ancestors to teach their children.
- 6 That future generations might know, and those yet unborn:
 that they in turn might teach it to their children:
- 7 So that they might put their confidence in God: and not forget his works, but keep his commandments.

1 Corinthians 9.16-19

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them.

Saturday

Psalm 145.10-11, 13-16, 21

- 10 All creation praises you, O Lord: and your faithful servants bless your name.
- 11 They speak of the glory of your kingdom: and tell of your great might,
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom: and your dominion endures through all generations.
- 14 The Lord upholds all those who stumble: and raises up those that are bowed down.
- 15 The eyes of all look to you in hope: and you give them their food in due season;
- 16 You open wide your hand: and fill all things living with your bounteous gift.
- 21 My mouth shall speak the praises of the Lord: and let all flesh bless his holy name, for ever and ever.

Romans 8.9-11

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.