

# Morning Prayer

Tuesday after Easter II  
Tuesday, April 13, 2021

## The Invitatory and Psalter

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim 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.

Alleluia.

### Christ our Passover *Pascha nostrum*

*1 Corinthians 5:7–8; Romans 6:9–11; 1 Corinthians 15:20–22*

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; \*  
therefore let us keep the feast,  
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, \*  
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; \*  
death no longer has dominion over him.  
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; \*  
but the life he lives, he lives to God.  
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, \*  
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, \*  
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.  
For since by a man came death, \*  
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all die, \*  
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

### Psalm 135 *Laudate nomen*

Hallelujah!

Praise the Name of the LORD; \*  
give praise, you servants of the LORD.

You who stand in the house of the LORD, \*  
in the courts of the house of our God.

Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; \*  
sing praises to his Name, for it is lovely.

For the LORD has chosen Jacob for himself \*  
**and Israel for his own possession.**

For I know that the LORD is great, \*  
**and that our Lord is above all gods.**

The LORD does whatever pleases him, in heaven and on earth, \*  
**in the seas and all the deeps.**

He brings up rain clouds from the ends of the earth; \*  
**he sends out lightning with the rain,  
and brings the winds out of his storehouse.**

It was he who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, \*  
**the firstborn both of man and beast.**

He sent signs and wonders into the midst of you, O Egypt, \*  
**against Pharaoh and all his servants.**

He overthrew many nations \*  
**and put mighty kings to death:**

Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
and Og, the kingdoms of Bashan, \*  
**and all the kings of Canaan.**

He gave their land to be an inheritance, \*  
**an inheritance for Israel his people.**

O LORD, your Name is everlasting; \*  
**your renown, O LORD, endures from age to age.**

For the LORD gives his people justice \*  
**and shows compassion to his servants.**

The idols of the heathen are silver and gold, \*  
**the work of human hands.**

They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
**eyes have they, but they cannot see.**

They have ears, but they cannot hear; \*  
**neither is there any breath in their mouth.**

Those who make them are like them, \*  
**and so are all who put their trust in them.**

Bless the LORD, O house of Israel; \*  
**O house of Aaron, bless the LORD.**

Bless the LORD, O house of Levi; \*  
**you who fear the LORD, bless the LORD.**

Blessed be the LORD out of Zion, \*  
**who dwells in Jerusalem.  
Hallelujah!**

**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.**

## **The Lessons**

### **First Lesson** *Daniel 6:1-28 (NRSV)*

#### **The Plot against Daniel**

<sup>6</sup> It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred twenty satraps, stationed throughout the whole kingdom, <sup>2</sup> and over them three presidents, including Daniel; to these the satraps gave account, so that the king might suffer no loss. <sup>3</sup> Soon Daniel distinguished himself above all the other presidents and satraps because an excellent spirit was in him, and the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. <sup>4</sup> So the presidents and the satraps tried to find grounds for complaint against Daniel in connection with the kingdom. But they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption could be found in him. <sup>5</sup> The men said, “We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.”

<sup>6</sup> So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, “O King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup> All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. <sup>8</sup> Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.” <sup>9</sup> Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict.

#### **Daniel in the Lions’ Den**

<sup>10</sup> Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously. <sup>11</sup> The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. <sup>12</sup> Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?” The king answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” <sup>13</sup> Then they responded to the king, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.”

<sup>14</sup>When the king heard the charge, he was very much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. <sup>15</sup>Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. <sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

### **Daniel Saved from the Lions**

<sup>19</sup>Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” <sup>21</sup>Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” <sup>23</sup>Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. <sup>24</sup>The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

<sup>25</sup>Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity! <sup>26</sup>I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel:

For he is the living God,  
enduring forever.  
His kingdom shall never be destroyed,  
and his dominion has no end.  
<sup>27</sup>He delivers and rescues,  
he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth;  
for he has saved Daniel  
from the power of the lions.”

<sup>28</sup>So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Lesson**    *1 John 2: 12-17 (NRSV)*

<sup>12</sup> I am writing to you, little children,  
because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

<sup>13</sup> I am writing to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young people,  
because you have conquered the evil one.

<sup>14</sup> I write to you, children,  
because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,  
because you know him who is from the beginning.

I write to you, young people,  
because you are strong  
and the word of God abides in you,  
and you have overcome the evil one.

<sup>15</sup> Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; <sup>16</sup> for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world and its desire<sup>[a]</sup> are passing away, but those who do the will of God live forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Meditation**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

## The Prayers

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

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.

Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
And grant us your salvation.  
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
Let your people sing with joy.  
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
For only in you can we live in safety.  
Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
Let your way be known upon earth;  
Your saving health among all nations.  
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
And sustain us by your Holy Spirit.

### *The Collect of the Day*

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### *A Collect for the Renewal of Life*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Other intercessions and thanksgivings may follow. ([Include your petitions.](#))*

*The General Thanksgiving*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or  
imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for  
ever and ever. **Amen.** *Ephesians 3:20,21*

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