

Morning Prayer

Holy Thursday



(Please stand)

God, come to my assistance

—Lord, make haste to help me.

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.

Morning Hymn: “Praise To The Lord, the Almighty”

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the king of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation! Come, all who hear: brothers and sisters, draw near, praise him in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning, keeping us safe at his side, and so gently sustaining. Have you not seen all you have needed has been met by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who shall prosper our work and defend us; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love will befriend us.

Text by Joachim Neander, 1650-1680. Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN, 1665.

Psalmody (please be seated)

(Repeat antiphon after Leader)

Ant: Look, O Lord, and see my suffering. Come quickly to my aid.

Psalm 80

- L: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!
- R: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
- L: O God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

- R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.
- L: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
- R: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches; it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.
- L: Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.
- R: Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted. They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.
- L: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
- R: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Psalm Prayer

Lord God, eternal shepherd, you so tend the vineyard you planted that now it extends its branches even to the farthest coast. Look down on your Church and come to us. Help us remain in your Son as branches on the vine that, planted firmly in your love, we may testify before the whole world to your great power working everywhere.

(Antiphon all together)

Ant: Look, O Lord, and see my suffering. Come quickly to my aid.

The Lord Is My Light (Ps 27)

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my help, the Lord is my salvation.

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Psalm 81

(Repeat antiphon after Leader)

Ant: The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat; he has filled with honey from the rock.

L: Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

- R: Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.
- L: For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob. He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt.
- R: I hear a voice I had not known: "I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket. In distress you called, and I rescued you;
- L: I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
- R: There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god. I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.
- L: "But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me. So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own counsels.
- R: O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways! Then I would quickly subdue their enemies, and turn my hand against their foes.
- L: Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their doom would last forever. I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you."

Psalm Prayer

Lord God, open our mouths to proclaim your glory. Help us to leave sin behind and to rejoice in professing your name.

(Antiphon all together)

Ant: The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat; he has filled with honey from the rock.

Reading: Hebrews 4:14-15:10

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not

presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek." In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Quiet Reflection

Canticle of the Sun (please stand)

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy: Come, dance in the forest, come, play in the field, and sing, sing, to the glory of the Lord. (Last time: Sing, sing to the glory of the Lord!)

1. Sing to the sun, the bringer of day, he carries the light of the Lord in his rays, the moon and the stars, who light up the way unto Your throne.
2. Sing to the earth, who makes life to grow, the creatures you made to let Your life show, the flowers and trees that help us to know the Heart of Love.

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Intercessions

Respond: "Lord, Hear Our Prayer"

Lord's Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Closing Prayer

God of infinite compassion, to love you is to be made holy; fill our hearts with your love. By the death of your Son you have given us hope, born of faith; by his rising again fulfill this hope in the perfect love of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Dismissal

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.
—Amen.