

# Morning Prayer

## (Baptism of Our Lord - Year B)



The Liturgy Letter

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Your light springs up for the nations  
and all the peoples have seen your glory.  
The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

### Opening Scripture

Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
-Isaiah 60:3

### Hymn - [Star in the East](#) | [Leadsheet](#)

Hail the blest morn, see the great Mediator,  
Down from the regions of glory descend!  
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger,  
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

*Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,  
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
Low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall;  
Angels adore him, in slumber reclining,  
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

*Refrain*

Vainly we offer each ample oblation;  
Vainly with gifts would his favor secure;  
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;  
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

*Refrain*

*Text: Reginald Heber / Music: English Traditional, 1820  
(arr. by William Walker in Southern Harmony)*

## Confession (From *The Book of Common Worship*)

Let us confess our sins to God.

Everlasting God,  
in whom we live and move and have our being:  
You have made us for yourself,  
so that our hearts are restless  
until they rest in you.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.  
Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,  
that no selfish passion may hinder  
us from knowing your will,  
no weakness keep us from doing it;  
that in your light we may see light clearly,  
and in your service find perfect freedom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen.

*Silence*

May the God of love and power  
Forgive you and free you from your sins,  
Heal and strengthen you by his Spirit,  
And raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

## Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

## Canticle for Epiphany (The Song of Zechariah, Luke 1:68-79)

REFRAIN (Congregation)

The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of his servant David.

*Refrain: The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful*

Through his holy prophets God promised of old to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,  
**To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.**  
**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:**  
**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**  
Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.  
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
**To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

*Refrain: The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful*

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,**  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*Refrain: The Lord is kind and merciful, the Lord is kind and merciful*

## Psalm of the Week

### Psalm 29 (NIV)

*A psalm of David.*

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord thunders over the mighty waters.

4 The voice of the Lord is powerful;  
the voice of the Lord is majestic.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;  
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.

6 He makes Lebanon leap like a calf,  
Sirion like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord strikes  
with flashes of lightning.

8 The voice of the Lord shakes the desert;  
the Lord shakes the Desert of Kadesh.

9 The voice of the Lord twists the oaks  
and strips the forests bare.

And in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord is enthroned as King forever.

11 The Lord gives strength to his people;  
the Lord blesses his people with peace.

## Gloria Patri

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

## Scripture Readings

[Genesis 1:1-5](#)

[Acts 19:1-7](#)

*(Stand)*

[Mark 4:1-11](#)

(A short silence is kept after the reading of the Gospel)

## The Prayers of the People (Adapted from *The Book of Daily Prayer*)

Heavenly Father, you have called us to remember to pray for the Church and the world, and for the ongoing ministry of the gospel, that your light may increase and make disciples of all nations. And so we pray:

For your Church in this place and around the world...

*Intercessions are said*

For our nation's leaders, for the leaders of other nations, and for all in authority throughout the world, and in our own community.

*Intercessions are said*

For this place, for every city and community, and for those who live in them.

*Intercessions are said*

For the good earth which you have given and for the wisdom and will to conserve it as faithful stewards. For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of harvest.

*Intercessions are said*

For the weak, fatherless, poor, oppressed, and needy.

*Intercessions are said*

For friends, relatives, and neighbors, and for the day and its tasks, we pray:

*Intercessions are said*

For answered prayer and new life.

*Intercessions are said*

That we may end our lives in faith and hope. Defend us, deliver us, and in your compassion protect us by your grace, through Jesus Christ, in whose name we are bold to pray:

## The Lord's Prayer

*\*If praying with others, stand and hold hands. If praying individually, stand with hands open and outstretched in the [sign of the Orans](#).*

## **A Prayer for the First Week after the Epiphany**

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### **Benediction (From Luke 2:29-32)**

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servants in peace.  
For our eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel.”

Go forth in the joy of the Incarnation!  
Let us bless our Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

### **Hymn - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Refrain)**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel.*