

Morning Prayer

(Third Sunday of Epiphany - 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

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.
-Isaiah 9:2

Hymn - Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber (1783-1826)

Tune: John B. Bykes (1823-1876)

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.

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 62:5-12 (NIV)

5 Yes, my soul, find rest in God;
my hope comes from him.

6 Truly he is my rock and my salvation;
he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

7 My salvation and my honor depend on God;
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

8 Trust in him at all times, you people;
pour out your hearts to him,
for God is our refuge.

9 Surely the lowborn are but a breath,
the highborn are but a lie.

If weighed on a balance, they are nothing;
together they are only a breath.

10 Do not trust in extortion
or put vain hope in stolen goods;
though your riches increase,
do not set your heart on them.

11 One thing God has spoken,
two things I have heard:
“Power belongs to you, God,
12 and with you, Lord, is unfailing love”;
and, “You reward everyone
according to what they have done.”

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

[Jonah 3:1-5, 10](#)

[1 Corinthians 7:29-31](#)

(Stand)

[Mark 1:14-20](#)

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

Confession of Faith - 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 of the People (from *The Worship Sourcebook, 2nd Ed.*)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Grant, almighty God, that all who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for your church around the world, especially those who suffer because of your name in places of conflict or disaster.

(Silence and free intercessions)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for those who lead in serve us in our own community, for our civil and spiritual leaders.

(Silence and free intercessions)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. We pray for those in our own congregation who are directly involved in this task and reflect your image by seeking to cultivate the beauty of your Creation.

(Silence and free intercessions)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them and love one another as he loves us.

(Silence and free intercessions)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

(Silence and free intercessions)

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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 Third Week after Epiphany

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. 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 light of Christ!

Let us bless our Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Hymn - [Jesus, the Light of the World](#) | [Leadsheet](#)

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night;
Jesus, the light of the world.*