

Morning Prayer

(Fourth Sunday after Epiphany- Year C)



The Liturgy Letter

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

—Psalm 124:8, NRSV

Invitation to Prayer

The first words of the Lord’s Prayer, “Our Father in heaven,” teach us to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence, as children to a father able and ready to help us, and that we should pray with and for others, offering up our desires to God for things agreeable to his will in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

—based on *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Q&A’s 98, 100

Hymn - Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul
And bless God’s holy name
Bless the Lord, my soul
Who leads me into life.

Music: Jacques Berthier (Taize)

Confession (From *Psalm 32*)

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you. Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice O Lord, according to your faithful love:

He has heard our voice and is faithful and just to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Amen.

Psalm 71:1-6 (NIV)

1 In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

2 In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;

turn your ear to me and save me.

3 Be my rock of refuge,

to which I can always go;

give the command to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.

5 For you have been my hope, Sovereign Lord,

my confidence since my youth.

6 From birth I have relied on you;

you brought me forth from my mother's womb.

I will ever praise you.

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

[Jeremiah 1:4-10](#)

[1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)

(Stand)

[Luke 4:21-30](#)

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

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

Intercessions (A time of spontaneous prayers and intercessions. Say “out loud” the names and situations that you would like to bring before God.)

- o We pray for the people of...(countries or regions)
- o We pray for our sisters and brothers...
(churches, believers in other Christian traditions, spiritual leaders)
- o We pray for friends, relatives, and neighbors
- o We pray for the day and its tasks, individuals in need, the world and its needs,
and for the Church and her life

Jesus, you are the Light of the World. 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 Mission

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction (from 1 Peter 3:18)

May you continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised!

Hymn - Doxology (Old 100th)