



Diocese of the West Synod 2021

Morning Prayer

OPENING SENTENCE

Seeing that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. *Heb. Iv. 14, 16.*

CONFESSION OF SIN

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying—

Almighty and most merciful Father; We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION, OR REMISSION OF SINS.

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins. He pardoneth and absolveth all those who truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

INVITATORY

Minister O Lord, open thou our lips;

Answer **And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

Minister Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Minister Praise ye the Lord.

Answer **The Lord's name be praised.**

VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO

Antiphon for Ascensiontide:

Alleluia. Christ the Lord ascended into heaven : O come, let us adore him. Alleluia

O Come, let us sing unto the LORD; * let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving; * and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God; * and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth; * and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it; * and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, * and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God; * and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; * let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth; * and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

PSALM 45, *ERUCTAVIT COR MEUM*

My heart is overfloweth with a good matter; I speak of the things which I have made concerning the King. *

My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

Thou art fairer than the children of men; *

full of grace are thy lips, because God hath blessed thee for ever.

Gird thee with thy sword upon thy thigh, O thou Most Mighty, *

according to thy worship and renown.

Good luck have thou with thine honour: *

ride on, because of the word of truth, of meekness, and righteousness;

and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things.

Thy arrows are very sharp in the heart of the King's enemies, *

and the people shall be subdued unto thee.

Thy seat, O God, endureth for ever; *

the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; *

wherefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows.

All thy garments smell of myrrh, aloes, and cassia; *

out of the ivory palaces, whereby they have made thee glad.

Kings' daughters are among thy honourable women; *

upon thy right hand doth stand the queen in a vesture of gold, wrought about with divers colours.

Hearken, O daughter, and consider; incline thine ear; *

forget also thine own people, and thy father's house.

So shall the King have pleasure in thy beauty; *

for he is thy Lord, and worship thou him.

And the daughter of Tyre shall be there with a gift; *

like as the rich also among the people shall make their supplication before thee.

The King's daughter is all glorious within; *

her clothing is of wrought gold.

She shall be brought unto the King in raiment of needlework: *

the virgins that be her fellows shall bear her company, and shall be brought unto thee.

With joy and gladness shall they be brought, *

and shall enter into the King's palace.

Instead of thy fathers, thou shalt have children, *

whom thou mayest make princes in all lands.

I will make thy Name to be remembered from one generation to another; *

therefore shall the people give thanks unto thee, world without end.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

THE LESSONS

Reader

Here beginneth the 1st Verse of the 49th Chapter of the Book of Genesis

After the reading

Here endeth the First Lesson.

BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; * praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; * praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; * Praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou that beholdest the depths, and dwellest between the Cherubim: * praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy Kingdom: * praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven: * praised and exalted above all for ever.

Reader Here beginneth the 13th Verse of the 2nd Chapter of the Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

After the reading Here endeth the Second Lesson.

JUBILATE DEO. PSALM C

O be joyful in the LORD, all ye lands: * serve the LORD with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the LORD he is God; it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; * we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; * be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the LORD is gracious, his mercy is everlasting; * and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body: And the Life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Minister The Lord be with you.

Answer **And with thy spirit.**

Minister Let us pray.

Minister O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Answer **And grant us thy salvation.**
Minister O God, make clean our hearts within us
Answer **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (ASCENSION)

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A COLLECT FOR GRACE

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF THE WEST.

Almighty and Everlasting God, we pray you will empower, sanctify, and provide for the Bishops, Clergy, and laity of our Diocese, that we may serve the ministry and mission of our Diocese. We pray for our Diocesan Synod, for our speakers Bishop Orji and Archbishop Kwashi, that you will use all that we decide to do to proclaim Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray for your peace in the world, for deliverance from the pandemic and our ungodly divisions, enabling us in all humility to pursue truth, righteousness, and godliness. Finally, we ask that you will bless us with a manifestation of your power in our lives and in the lives of our loved ones. In your holy name we pray, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR THE CLERGY AND PEOPLE.

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; Send down upon our Bishops, and other Clergy, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

IN TIME OF GREAT SICKNESS AND MORTALITY.

O most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succour. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR ALL CONDITIONS OF MEN.

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; said when any desire prayers...[*especially those for whom our prayers are desired;] that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

A GENERAL THANKSGIVING.

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men; [*particularly said when any desire to return thanks...to those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.] We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable 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 beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

A PRAYER OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE GRACE (2 COR XIII. 14)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**