

## Morning Prayer

### The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, which will come to all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

*Luke 2:10, 11*

### Invitatory and Psalter

**BCP p. 80**

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
*People* And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.  
Alleluia.

### Venite

*Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.  
For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

### Psalm 103

**BCP p. 733**

Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, \*  
and forget not all his benefits.  
He forgives all your sins \*  
and heals all your infirmities;  
He redeems your life from the grave \*  
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;  
He satisfies you with good things, \*  
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.  
The LORD executes righteousness \*  
and judgment for all who are oppressed.  
He made his ways known to Moses \*  
and his works to the children of Israel.  
The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, \*  
slow to anger and of great kindness.  
He will not always accuse us, \*  
nor will he keep his anger for ever.  
He has not dealt with us according to our sins, \*  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.  
For as the heavens are high above the earth, \*  
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west, \*  
so far has he removed our sins from us.  
As a father cares for his children, \*  
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.  
For he himself knows whereof we are made; \*  
he remembers that we are but dust.  
Our days are like the grass; \*  
we flourish like a flower of the field;  
When the wind goes over it, it is gone, \*  
and its place shall know it no more.  
But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who fear him, \*  
and his righteousness on children's children;  
On those who keep his covenant \*  
and remember his commandments and do them.  
The LORD has set his throne in heaven, \*  
and his kingship has dominion over all.  
Bless the LORD, you angels of his,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding, \*  
and hearken to the voice of his word.  
Bless the LORD, all you his hosts, \*  
you ministers of his who do his will.  
Bless the LORD, all you works of his,  
in all places of his dominion; \*  
bless the LORD, O my soul.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson

Gen. 17:1-12a,15-16

A Reading from the Book of Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. And I will give to you, and to your offspring after you, the land where you are now an alien, all the land of Canaan, for a perpetual holding; and I will be their God." God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. Throughout your generations every male among you shall be circumcised when he is eight days old, including the slave born in your house and the one bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### 16. The Song of Zechariah

*Luke 1: 68-79*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he 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.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he 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.  
You, my 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 their sins.  
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.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## **The Second Lesson**

**Col. 2:6-12**

A Reading from the Letter to the Colossians.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## **21. You are God**

You are God: we praise you;  
You are the Lord; we acclaim you;  
You are the eternal Father:  
All creation worships you.  
To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you;  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
You, Christ, are the king of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.

When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.  
Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**BCP p. 96**

**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**

**BCP p. 97**

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.  
*People*      And also with you.  
*Officiant*      Let us pray.

### **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.

### **Suffrages B**

*V.* Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
*R.* Govern and uphold them, now and always.  
*V.* Day by day we bless you;  
*R.* We praise your name for ever.  
*V.* Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
*R.* Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
*V.* Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
*R.* For we put our trust in you.  
*V.* In you, Lord, is our hope;  
*R.* And we shall never hope in vain.

### **The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

Eternal Father, you gave to your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be the sign of our salvation: Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Savior of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### **A Collect for Grace**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **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.

*Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.*

## **The General Thanksgiving**

**BCP p. 101**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable 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 pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

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

*2 Corinthians 13:14*