

## Morning Prayer

### The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

*Psalm 43:3*

#### 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.

#### Jubilate

*Psalm 100*

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*  
serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: The Lord himself is God; \*  
he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.  
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.

#### Psalm 66

**BCP p. 673**

Be joyful in God, all you lands; \*  
sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.  
Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! \*  
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.  
All the earth bows down before you, \*  
sings to you, sings out your Name."  
Come now and see the works of God, \*  
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.  
He turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, \*  
and there we rejoiced in him.  
In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; \*  
let no rebel rise up against him.  
Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.  
For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.  
You brought us into the snare; \*  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.  
You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; \*  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.  
I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, \*  
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.  
I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; \*  
I will give you oxen and goats.  
Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*  
and I will tell you what he has done for me.  
I called out to him with my mouth, \*  
and his praise was on my tongue.  
If I had found evil in my heart, \*  
the Lord would not have heard me;  
But in truth God has heard me; \*  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.  
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*  
nor withheld his love from me.

## **Psalm 67**

**BCP p. 675**

May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*  
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.  
Let your ways be known upon earth, \*  
your saving health among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has brought forth her increase; \*  
may God, our own God, give us his blessing.  
May God give us his blessing, \*  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.  
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 1 Macc. 2:29-43,49-50**

A Reading from the First Book of Maccabees.

At that time many who were seeking righteousness and justice went down to the wilderness to live there, they, their sons, their wives, and their livestock, because troubles pressed heavily upon

them. And it was reported to the king's officers, and to the troops in Jerusalem the city of David, that those who had rejected the king's command had gone down to the hiding-places in the wilderness. Many pursued them, and overtook them; they encamped opposite them and prepared for battle against them on the sabbath day. They said to them, 'Enough of this! Come out and do what the king commands, and you will live.' But they said, 'We will not come out, nor will we do what the king commands and so profane the sabbath day.' Then the enemy quickly attacked them. But they did not answer them or hurl a stone at them or block up their hiding-places, for they said, 'Let us all die in our innocence; heaven and earth testify for us that you are killing us unjustly.' So they attacked them on the sabbath, and they died, with their wives and children and livestock, to the number of a thousand people.

When Mattathias and his friends learned of it, they mourned for them deeply. And all said to their neighbours: 'If we all do as our kindred have done and refuse to fight with the Gentiles for our lives and for our ordinances, they will quickly destroy us from the earth.' So they made this decision that day: 'Let us fight against anyone who comes to attack us on the sabbath day; let us not all die as our kindred died in their hiding-places.'

Then there united with them a company of Hasideans, mighty warriors of Israel, all who offered themselves willingly for the law. And all who became fugitives to escape their troubles joined them and reinforced them.

Now the days drew near for Mattathias to die, and he said to his sons: 'Arrogance and scorn have now become strong; it is a time of ruin and furious anger. Now, my children, show zeal for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of our ancestors.'

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 Acts 28:14b-23**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

There we found believers and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. The believers from there, when they heard of us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage. When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him.

Three days later he called together the local leaders of the Jews. When they had assembled, he said to them, "Brothers, though I had done nothing against our people or the customs of our ancestors, yet I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. When they had examined me, the Romans wanted to release me, because there was no reason for the death penalty in my case. But when the Jews objected, I was compelled to appeal to the emperor—even though I had no charge to bring against my nation. For this reason therefore I have asked to see you and speak with you, since it is for the sake of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain." They replied, "We have received no letters from Judea about you, and none of the brothers coming here has reported or spoken anything evil about you. But we would like to hear from you what you think, for with regard to this sect we know that everywhere it is spoken against."

After they had set a day to meet with him, they came to him at his lodgings in great numbers. From morning until evening he explained the matter to them, testifying to the kingdom of God and trying to convince them about Jesus both from the law of Moses and from the prophets.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **21. You are God**

**BCP p. 95**

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 acclaim 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 in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. And grant us your salvation.

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
 R. **Let your people sing with joy.**  
 V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
 R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
 V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
 R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
 V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
 R. **Your saving health among all nations.**  
 V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
 R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
 V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
 R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

### The Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### A Collect for Sundays

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### A Prayer for Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

*Let us pray 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.**

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:  
Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

*Ephesians 3:20,21*