

Holy Presence Catholic Community
Morning Prayer, May 19

Opening and Invitation

As a new day comes, O God, open our hearts and minds to your love, your presence, and your grace. We begin in the name of God who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.

“We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.” Acts 2

Psalm 100

Acclaim God with joy, all the earth.

Serve God with gladness.

Enter into God’s presence with a joyful song.

Know that our Creator is God.

God made us and we belong to God.

Enter God’s gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise.

Give thanks to God. Bless God’s Name.

God is good with steadfast love which endures forever.

God is faithful to all generations.

Glory be to God, 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.

Words of Confession

Each morning we are graced with a new day, a new beginning. Let us claim this day.

Loving God, you have created us, know us, and claim us as your own. We ask for your forgiveness and grace for all of the times that we have strayed from your path. We ask for the courage to face our errors and willingness to amend our ways, so that we may rest in the peace that only you can give and be your light in this world. Give us the power to love as you love, and to forgive as you forgive.

Assurance

Scripture tells us “If we say, we are without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sin, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrong doing.” Accept this truth and continue to walk in the path of love, light, and peace. You are a new creation.

The Word of God

Psalm 104

Bless the Lord, O my soul. My God, you are indeed very great. You are clothed in majesty and splendor, wrapped in light as in a robe. You have stretched out the heavens like a tent; you have established your palace upon the waters. You make the clouds serve as your chariot; you ride forth on the wings of the wind. You have appointed the winds as your messengers and flames of fire as your ministers.

You established the earth on its foundations so that it will remain unshaken forever. You covered it with the deep like a cloak; the waters rose above the mountains. At your rebuke the waters took to flight; at the sound of your thunder they fled in terror.

They rose up to the mountains and flowed down to the valleys, to the place that you had designated for them. You established a

boundary that they were not to cross so that they would never again cover the earth. You made springs gush forth in the valleys and flow between the mountains. They supply water to every beast of the field, and from them the wild asses quench their thirst.

On the banks the birds of the air build nests and sing among the branches. From your dwelling you water the mountains, enriching the earth with the fruit of your labor. You provide grass for the cattle, and the plants for humans to cultivate. You bring forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the heart of humanity, oil to make their face shine and bread to strengthen their body.

The trees of God have fruit in abundance, the cedars of Lebanon that God planted. In them the birds build their nests; in the fir trees the stork makes its home. The high mountains are inhabited by the wild goats; in the rocky crags the badgers find refuge.

You created the moon that marks the seasons and the sun that knows its time for setting. You bring on darkness, and it is night, when all the beasts of the forests go on the prowl. The young lions roar for their prey, seeking their food from God. When the sun rises, they steal away and return to their lairs to rest. People go forth to their work and to their labor until darkness descends.

How countless are your works, O God; by your wisdom you have made them all; the earth abounds with your creatures. There is the sea, vast and broad, filled with numberless species, living creatures both great and small. There the ships sail forth, and the Leviathan that you formed to play therein. All of them look to you to give them their food at the appropriate time. When you provide it for them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. When you turn away your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to the dust. When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of God abide forever, and may God rejoice in creation. When God looks at the earth, it quakes; when God touches the mountains, they smoke. I will sing to God as long as I live; I will sing

praise to my God while I have life. May my meditation be pleasing to God, for this is where I find my joy. May sinners be banished from the earth, and may the wicked no longer exist. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia.

Acts 2:1-11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, "Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God."

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

John 20:19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As God has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

The Word of God. Thanks be to God.

Creed

We believe in God, who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes and songs in our hearts. We believe God wanted gladness to flow like a river, and so created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.

We believe in Jesus, who turned water into wine, celebrated with outcasts and sinners, and touched the broken so that they could leap and dance. We believe that Jesus opened the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who prompts us to smile; who sends us invitations to come and dine; who nudges us to openness and tenderness.

We believe the Spirit is present every time we gather to break bread and is urging us to live joyfully and walk hopefully. Forever, we will live in the embrace of God, and be a witness to resurrection joy. Amen.

Prayers

Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, Your 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.
Lead us away from temptation and deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer for the Church: Holy One, bless your church throughout the earth. Where there are problems, rectify them. Where there is lack, provide. When praise and glory are given, accept. When a person is searching, open our doors. Where we have, let us give. All to the glory of your Name.

Prayer for Joy and Contentment: On this Sabbath Day, O God, we seek the joy and contentment that only you can give. Quiet our minds from all the input this modern world offers and bring us to this moment. Let us feel your love, your grace, your gentleness as we calm our mind, body and soul. Instill the joy of knowing you, and being known by you, so we may be your feet and hands in our communities.

Prayer for Those In Need of Prayer: O God, you have command us to love our neighbors as You have loved us. There are so many of your children who need prayer but don't know how, or don't know who to ask. For all these brothers and sisters we offer a prayer. May they be surrounded by Love, comforted by Grace, and find the Peace that only you can provide.

Prayer for Spiritual Gifts: Holy Spirit, you have blessed each one of us with gifts to be shared for the good of all. Sometimes they are hard to see or imagine. Guide us to these gifts and help us to offer them without fear. For we know, that when we share our particular gifts, you mold them together and create a masterpiece of love and grace for all.

Canticle of Judith

I will sing a new song to my God, for you are great and glorious, truly strong and invincible. May your whole creation serve you, for you spoke and all things came to be. You sent forth your Spirit and they were formed, for no one can resist your voice.

Mountains and seas are stirred to their depths; at your presence rocks shall melt like wax. But to those who love you, you continue to show mercy. No sacrifice, however fragrant, can please you, but whoever loves shall stand in your sight for ever.

Glory be to God, 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Light of the world, we come to you with so much to be grateful for.... Grateful for your sustaining grace, mercy, and tenderness. Grateful for a relationship with you that brings light and hope to our lives and the lives of others. Grateful, too, for your unending presence in our lives.

We are grateful for the creation that surrounds and sustains us. The beauty of your trees and flowers, of your seas and mountains. The joy in your creatures – great and small. The wonder of space, the stars; the moon and sun which light our path.

Thank you for the gifts we have been given, the ability to learn and grow in wisdom each day and to deepen our relationship with you; the ability to see your face in every person we meet; the ability to love and be loved, to forgive and to be forgiven.

Thank you God for your everlasting love, for Jesus who makes us a new creation, and for filling our hearts with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13

Thanks be to God.

In the name of our God who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.
Amen.