

Holy Presence Catholic Community  
Morning Prayer, May 22

*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 49

Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world, both low and high, rich and poor alike: My mouth will speak words of wisdom; the meditation of my heart will give you understanding. I will turn my ear to a proverb; with the harp I will expound my riddle: Why should fear when evil days come, when wicked deceivers surround me— those who trust in their wealth and boast of their great riches? No one can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for them— the ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough—so that they should live on forever and not see decay.

For all can see that the wise die, that the foolish and the senseless also perish, leaving their wealth to others. Their tombs will

remain their houses forever, their dwellings for endless generations, though they had named lands after themselves.

People, despite their wealth, do not endure; they are like the beasts that perish. This is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their followers, who approve their sayings. They are like sheep and are destined to die; death will be their shepherd (but the upright will prevail over them in the morning). Their forms will decay in the grave, far from their princely mansions. But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead;

God will surely take me home. Do not be overawed when others grow rich, when the splendor of their houses increases; for they will take nothing with them when they die, their splendor will not descend with them.

Though while they live they count themselves blessed—and people praise you when you prosper—they will join those who have gone before them, who will never again see the light of life. People who have wealth but lack understanding are like the beasts that perish.

James 4:13-17

Beloved: Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we shall go into such and such a town, spend a year there doing business, and make a profit"—you have no idea what your life will be like tomorrow. You are a puff of smoke that appears briefly and then disappears.

Instead you should say, "If God wills it, we shall live to do this or that." But now you are boasting in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So for one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it, it is a sin.

Mark 9:38-40

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us." Jesus replied, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me.

For whoever is not against us is for us."

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 resurrection joy: God, you have overcome the power of death and instilled in us the truth that nothing will ever separate us

from you. Help us to immerse our minds and hearts with the knowledge that we are indeed one with Jesus in this world and the next. May we be so filled with joy in this knowledge that we act as a light for this darkening world and become the hope for a better tomorrow.

Prayer for natural disasters: Creator God, our world is filled with fires and floods, droughts and hurricanes. Bring your calming presence to those afflicted by these treacherous events. Help us to remember to keep those who suffer in the forefront of our lives, giving to them what we can, so they may move beyond and through their circumstances and find wholeness and safety.

Prayer for those who are living life eternal: Loving God, we give you thanks for the people of faith who have guided us, loved us, and been with us. Though they are not sitting near us at the dinner table, we know they are forever in our hearts walking with us on our path. Through our grief of losing them, may we always live in the certain hope that we will be together in your embrace in all eternity.

Prayer for those addicted: God of Mercy, we live in a culture of addiction. Be it drugs, alcohol, shopping, hatred, power - we ask that you make yourself known to all who are active in their addictions. Comfort their fears, open their minds, instill their souls with your love. For those who live in the wake of peoples addictions, grant them hope, peace, and courage to continue to remind those who need it of your love, your strength and your way.

### *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 mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance.

Jude 1:2

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