

Holy Presence Catholic Community
Morning Prayer, May 25

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

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

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 141

O God, I call to you; come quickly to my aid; listen to my plea when I call out to you. May my prayer be like incense before you, the lifting up of my hands like the evening sacrifice. Set a guard over my mouth, O God; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not permit my heart to be drawn to evil, or to the pursuit of wicked deeds in the company of those who do evil; let me not share in their corruption.

If a righteous person strikes me, I regard it as kindness; if they rebuke me, it is oil on my head. But never let the oil of the wicked anoint my head, for my prayer is always opposed to their evil deeds. When their leaders are flung down in stony places, they will learn that my prayers were heard. As the soil is shattered when the ground is plowed, so our bones are scattered at the mouth of the netherworld.

But my eyes are turned to you, O God; in you I seek refuge; do not take my life away. Keep me safe from the traps they have laid for me from the snares of evildoers. Let the wicked tumble into their own nets all together while I pass by unharmed.

James 5:13-20

Beloved: Is anyone among you suffering? They should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? They should sing a song of praise. Is anyone among you sick? They should summon the presbyters of the Church, and they should pray over them. and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick person, and God will raise them up. If they have committed any sins, they will be forgiven.

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful. Elijah was a human like us; yet he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain upon the land. Then Elijah prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the earth produced its fruit.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you should stray from the truth and someone bring them back, they should know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of their ways will save their soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Mark 10:13-16

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the Kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced the children and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

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 Departed: Everlasting God, we have all lost a loved one and there is a small whole in our hearts when we cannot see them in person. Please remind us how everlasting Love is. Help us to

remember there are no boundaries which it cannot cross so we may continue to feel our loved ones who have joined you in paradise.

Prayer for Truth: Jesus, you are the way, the truth and the light. Help us this day to keep this knowledge foremost in our thoughts. Guide all of your people to treasure the truth. Where we are afraid of it, give us courage. Where people are persecuted for it, give them strength to continue. Where we are unsure of what your truth is, fill us with your Wisdom.

Prayer for Peace: God of peace, our world is becoming more combative, more unequal, more frightening. We ask that you spread your peace throughout your peoples' hearts. Help us to discover ways to turn our swords into plowshares and our fear into love. And, help us to teach these ways to others and bring peace to this world.

Prayer for Those in Need: God, you have blessed this creation with abundance, yet some of our brothers and sisters find themselves in need of food, shelter, medical care - - basic human needs. Teach us ways to share the blessings we have been given, no matter how small. For as we treat one another, we treat you.

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

God will keep you from all harm— God will watch over your life; your coming and going, both now and forevermore.

Psalm 121:7-8

Thanks be to God.

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