

## WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER

July 21, 2021

Season after Pentecost



### OPENING SENTENCES

One: O Lord, open my lips,

**All: and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.** *(Ps. 51:15)*

One: The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

**All: and your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;**

One: for who in the skies can be compared to the Lord?

Who is like the Lord among the gods?

**All: A God who is feared in the council of the holy ones,  
great and awesome to those all around.**

One: Who is like you, Lord God of hosts?

**All: O mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you.** *(Ps. 89:5-8)*

### MORNING PRAYER

(. . . through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**)

### PSALM 46 (read in unison)

**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

**though its waters rage and foam,**

**and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;**

**God shall help it at the break of day.**

**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;**

**God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

**The LORD of hosts is with us;**

**the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**Come now, regard the works of the LORD,**

**what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

**behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;**

**who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;**

**I will be exalted among the nations;**

**I will be exalted in the earth.”**

**The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**SCRIPTURE READING:****Acts 14:19-28**

One: . . . The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)*

**SCRIPTURE READING:****Mark 4:35-41**

One: . . . The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)*

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

One: Let us pray...

Lord Jesus Christ, greater than all things, greater than every thought of you,  
come, hear our prayer.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: O Christ the Healer, by your wounds others are made whole,  
by your tears sorrow is washed away,  
come with kindness to those who today need your touch, your time,  
or who need to know that you remember them.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: O Christ the Feeder, you ask for what we have in order to nourish those we tend to forget.  
Where people hunger, in or out of our view, direct not just the pity of our eyes,  
but our generosity even if it hurts.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: O Christ the Peacemaker, stubbornness condemns us,  
unsure as we are to walk the road that leads to peace.  
Show us, whose science is set to militarize the galaxy,  
the simpler, humbler and yet more difficult path  
by which our warfare may be turned to welfare.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: O Christ the Liberator, the chains of death and hell could not hold you,  
yet imperialism, racism, sexism and a thousand other "isms" ensnare your people.  
Where humanity cries out against inhumanity and where nature mourns for its good,  
deliver all from evil.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: O Christ the Stranger, you meet us when we are not ready for you;  
you stand or sit with those we avoid;  
you knock on the door we are hesitant to open;  
you say the word we are reluctant to hear.

Come, where you are kept at arm's length  
and take the hand that needs to hold you.

Lord, in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

One: Lord Jesus Christ,  
we believe that you are God;  
we believe that you are true to your promise to answer the prayers of your people;

**All: In us, through us, and, if need be, despite us,  
let the fabric of the world be transformed into the shape of your kingdom  
for your name's sake. Amen.**

*(other prayers and petitions...)*

One: Now, grateful that we are free to unite in prayer,  
we pray in words Jesus taught his friends:

**All: 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;  
and 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 forever. Amen.**

## **CLOSING RESPONSES AND PRAYER OF BLESSING**

One: Look at your hands. See the touch and the tenderness.

**All: God's own for the world.**

One: Look at your feet. See the path and the direction.

**All: God's own for the world.**

One: Look at your heart. See the fire and the love.

**All: God's own for the world.**

One: Look at the cross. See God's Son and our Savior.

**All: God's own for the world.**

One: This is God's world

**All: And we will serve God in it.**

One: May God bless you.

May God keep you ever with great care and lead your lives with love.

**All: May Christ's warm welcome shine in our lives,  
and peace in heart and home prevail through every day  
till greater life shall call. Amen.**

One: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

One: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

*(Signs and words of Christ's peace may be exchanged by all.)*



Liturgical materials adapted from the following sources:

*Present on Earth: Worship Resources on the Life of Jesus* Copyright 2002 WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow G23DH, Scotland.

The psalm text comes from the *Presbyterian Book of Common Worship* (Westminster John Knox, 2018), in an inclusive/expansive language version first published in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006) and shared with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and other ecumenical partners.