

## WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER

Easter  
May 11, 2022



### OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: The world belongs to God,

People: **the earth and all its people.**

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful

People: **to live together in unity.**

Leader: Love and faith come together;

People: **justice and peace join hands.**

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent,

People: **the stones around us would shout aloud.**

Leader: Open our lips, O God,

People: **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: ... one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

### PSALM 99 *(read in unison)*

*The LORD is king;*

*let the people tremble.*

*The LORD is enthroned upon the cherubim;*

*let the earth shake.*

*The LORD, great in Zion, is high above all peoples.*

*Let them confess God's name, which is great and awesome;*

*God is the Holy One.*

*O mighty king, lover of justice, you have established equity;*

*you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.*

*Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and fall down before God's footstool;*

*God is the Holy One.*

*Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, O LORD;*

*they called upon you, and you answered them, you spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;*

*they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them.*

*O LORD our God, you answered them indeed;*

*you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.*

*Proclaim the greatness of the LORD and worship upon God's holy hill;*

*for the LORD our God is the Holy One.*

### SCRIPTURE READING:

[1 Thessalonians 2:1-12](#)

Leader: ...The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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

### SCRIPTURE READING:

[Matthew 5:17-20](#)

Leader: ...The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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

### PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Leader: Let us pray...

From deep within our being we call upon you, God,  
for through you all can be made whole.

*(pause)*

Hear us as we raise to heaven our concerns for the people of earth.  
We pray for those who cry out in physical pain or who suffer silently  
and who long for the healing that human hands alone cannot offer...

*(pause)*

## PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS *(continued)*

We pray for those who suffer mental anguish, who worry, feel anxiety, fear the future,  
who at night cry, 'I wish to God it were morning,'  
and in the morning cry, 'I wish to God it were night'...

*(pause)*

We pray for those who mourn, who grieve the loss of love or of a loved one,  
and for those who know within themselves,  
or see in others a loss of ability...  
a loss of choice or independence or a dimming of the light...

*(pause)*

We pray for communities in which people deal with disaster or terror,  
hunger or poverty, not knowing how or when their misery will end....

*(pause)*

In silence we remember those who are victimized because of who they are...  
We remember all who are abused, abandoned or degraded...  
And remember others in our minds, whose deepest needs may be known to God alone,  
we commend them to the affirming and restoring grace of God.

*(pause)*

Loving Jesus, your hands are strong to hold and heal, to wipe away tears and protect in danger.  
So, hear our prayers.

**People: Amen.**

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

**People: *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

Leader: God to enfold us,

**People: God to surround us.**

Leader: God in our sleeping,

**People: God in our waking.**

Leader: God in our watching,

**People: God in our hoping.**

Leader: God on our lips,

**People: God in our lives. Amen.**



Leader: Now, may God the Creator who made heaven and earth--

**People: bless us with creativity and wonder.**

Leader: May Jesus who walked through fields and cities--

**People: bless us with kind hands and listening ears.**

Leader: May the Holy Spirit who is around us and within us—

**People: bless us with courage to be caring and just.**

Leader: May we work and walk in the strong love of the Trinity all our nights and days.

**People: Amen.**

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

**People: And also with you.**

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

~ 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.

~ Liturgical materials adapted from the following sources: Iona Abbey Worship Book, 2017, A Wee Worship Book, Fifth Incarnation