



WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER
Season after Pentecost
September 16, 2020

OPENING SENTENCES

One: The world belongs to God,

All: the earth and all its people.

One: How good it is, how wonderful

All: to live together in unity.

One: Love and faith come together;

All: justice and peace join hands.

One: If Christ's disciples keep silent,

All: the stones around us would shout aloud.

One: Open our lips, O God,

All: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

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

All: Amen.

PSALM 138 (read in unison)

**I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.**

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;**

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

When I called, you answered me;

you increased my strength within me.

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,

when they have heard the words of your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;

**you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.**

You will make good your purpose for me;

**O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

SCRIPTURE READING:

[Acts 16:16-24](#)

One: . . . The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)

SCRIPTURE READING:

[John 12:9-26](#)

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...

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

(pause)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: 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)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: 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)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: 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 or a loss of choice
or independence or a dimming of the light...

(pause)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: 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)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: 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)

Lord, in your mercy...

All: Hear our prayer.

One: Loving Jesus, your hands are strong to hold and heal,
to wipe away tears and protect in danger.

All: So, hear our prayers. Amen.

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: God to enfold us,

All: God to surround us.

One: God in our sleeping,

All: God in our waking.

One: God in our watching,

All: God in our hoping.

One: God on our lips,

All: God in our lives. Amen.

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

All: bless us with creativity and wonder.

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

All: bless us with kind hands and listening ears.

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

All: bless us with courage to be caring and just.

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

All: 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.)