

OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: O Lord, open my lips.
People: **And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
Leader: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
People: **whose sin is put away!**
Leader: Blessed are they who are free of guilt,
People: **in whose spirit there is no deceit!**



March 13, 2024

SILENCE (*Be still and aware of God's presence within and all around...*)

OPENING PRAYER

(...now and forever. **AMEN.**)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Almighty God, Maker of all things,
People: **have mercy on us.**
Leader: Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world,
People: **have mercy on us.**
Leader: Holy Spirit, Giver of life,
People: **have mercy on us.**
(...a brief silence)
Leader: I confess to God almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you,
my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word, and deed;
wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins and bring me to everlasting life.
People: **May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins
and give you time to amend your life.**
Leader: Amen.
People: I confess to God almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you,
my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault, in thought, word,
and deed; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me,
forgive me all my sins and bring me to everlasting life.
Leader: May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins
and give you time to amend your life.
People: **Amen.**

PSALM 42 (*read in unison*)

*As the deer longs for the water-brooks,
so longs my soul for you, O God.
I thirst for God, for the living God;
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my food day and night, while all day long they say to me,
"Where now is your God?"
I pour out my soul when I think on these things;
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
with shouts of thanksgiving, among those keeping festival.
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,
and why are you so disquieted within me?
Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.
My soul is heavy within me;
therefore I will remember you from the land of Jordan,
and from the peak of Mizar among the heights of Hermon.*

(continued)

PSALM 42 (continued)

*One deep calls to another in the roar of your cascades;
all your rapids and floods have gone over me.
The LORD grants lovingkindness in the daytime;
in the night season the LORD’s song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.
I will say to the God of my strength, “Why have you rejected me,
and why do I wander in such gloom while the enemy oppresses me?”
While my bones are being broken, my enemies mock me to my face;
all day long they mock me and say to me, “Where now is your God?”
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,
and why are you so disquieted within me?
Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.*

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Leader: . . . The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:11-26

Leader: . . . The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
(A period of silence follows for personal reflection.)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For the peace from above, for the loving kindness of God,
and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For the peace of the world, for the unity of the church of God,
and for the well-being of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For this gathering of the faithful, and for all who offer here their worship
and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For all the baptized, for all who serve in the church,
for presbyters and deacons, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For this city and county, for every city and community, and for those who
live in them, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For seasonable weather, and for abundant harvests for all to share,
let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to
conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphaned, and for the sick
and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the poor and the oppressed, for those unemployed and the destitute,
for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them,
let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For deliverance in times of affliction, strife, and need,
let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection and are at rest,
let us give thanks to the Lord.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: ...through Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

*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.
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 for ever. Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Leader: May we continue to grow in the grace and knowledge
of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Bless the Lord.

People: **The Lord’s name be praised.**

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(Signs and words of peace are exchanged . . .)

~ 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.

~ The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercessory based on the litanies from the Eastern liturgies of St. Basil and St. John Chrysostom.