

MORNING PRAYER
The People Gather
September 2, 2026 - Season after Pentecost



OPENING SENTENCES

Leader: O Lord, open my lips, *(Psalm 51:15)*
People: **and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**
Leader: You created the day and the night, O God; *(Psalm 74:16-17)*
People: **you set the sun and the moon in their places;**
Leader: you set the limits of the earth;
People: **you made summer and winter.**

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

OPENING PRAYER

(now and forever. Amen.)

PSALM 139 *(read in unison)*

*LORD, you have searched me out;
O LORD, you have known me.
You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
Where can I go then from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"
darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.
For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
My body was not hidden from you, while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book;
my days were fashioned before they came to be.
How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!*

(continued)

*If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.
Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God!
You that thirst for blood, depart from me.
They speak spitefully against you; your enemies take your name in vain.
Do I not hate those, O LORD, who hate you?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?
I hate them with a perfect hatred; they have become my own enemies.
Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.
Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.*

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10:1-16

Silence follows for reflection on the meaning of the scripture.

John 7:1-13

Silence follows for reflection on the meaning of the scripture.

THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Satisfy us with your love in the morning, (*Psalm 90:14*)

People: **and we will live this day in joy and praise.**

Leader: We praise you, God our creator, for your handiwork
in shaping and sustaining your wondrous creation.
Especially we thank you for
the ministry of all the baptized . . .
those who provide for public safety and well-being . . .
those with whom we work or share common concerns . . .
opportunities to share good news with others . . .
the treasure stored in every human life. . .

Individual prayers of thanksgiving may be invited, asking:

"People of God, for what else do we give thanks?"

We dare to pray for others, God our Savior, claiming your love in Jesus Christ for the whole world, committing ourselves to care for others in his name.

Especially we pray for
the church around the world . . .
those who seek to save the earth from destruction . . .
those who work for the benefit of others . . .
those who cannot work today . . .
all who proclaim your saving love. . .
the sick and the dying...

Individual prayers of intercession may be invited, asking:

"People of God, for what else do we pray?"

There may be silent prayer.

Leader: As you cause the sun to rise, O God, bring the light of Christ to dawn in our souls
People: and dispel the shadows of hatred and fear.
Leader: Give us grace to reflect Christ's glory;
People: and let his love show in our deeds,
Leader: his peace shine in our words,
People: and his healing in our touch, that all may give him praise,
now and forever. 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 the God of hope fill us with all joy
and peace through the power of the Holy Spirit. *(Romans 15:13)*
People: Amen.
Leader: Bless the Lord.
People: The Lord's name be praised.
Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

A sign of peace may be 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.