

MORNING PRAYER
Season after Pentecost - September 30, 2026



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.

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

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: Move among us, God; give us life;
People: let your people rejoice in you.
Leader: Give us again the joy of your help;
People: with your spirit of freedom sustain us.
Leader: God, make our hearts clean,
People: restore us in body, mind and spirit.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us in silence confess our failings
and acknowledge our part in the pain of the world.

(SILENCE)

Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to turning away from God in the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others, and the life of the world.

**People: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Leader: Amen.

**People: Before God, with the people of God,
I confess to turning away from God in the ways I wound my life,
the lives of others, and the life of the world.**

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

People: Amen.

RESPONSE OF FAITH

Leader: With the whole church

**People: we affirm that we are made in God's image, befriended by Christ,
empowered by the Spirit.**

Leader: With people everywhere

**People: we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.**

Leader: With all creation

**People: we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life,
the unfolding purposes of God for ever at work in ourselves and the world.**

PSALM 15 *(read in unison)*

LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

***Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;
they do not slander with the tongue,
they do no evil to their friends;
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.***

In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Acts 21:1–14

People: Thanks be to God.

(A time of silence follows for meditation.)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Luke 5:27–39

People: Thanks be to God.

(A time of silence follows for meditation.)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

The people are led in prayer . . .

Leader: God, in whose heart is love and justice, show us this day whom we must love and what we should challenge or change in order that your will for the earth might be done.

**People: Increase our hope, dispel our apathy;
inspire our imagination, and deepen our commitment until
we become the signs of your kingdom for which we and others pray. Amen.**

Leader: So now, as Jesus taught us, we pray:

**People: Our Father in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

CLOSING RESPONSES

Leader: This is the day that God has made;

People: we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: We will not offer to God

People: offerings that cost us nothing.

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve;

People: we will seek peace and pursue it.

Leader: In the name of the Trinity of love,

People: God in community, holy and one.

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

People: And also with you.

(Expressions of Christ's peace are shared . . .)



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.

Source: *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, 2017