

MORNING PRAYER 1.

(based on A Service of Praise, Prayer and Proclamation APBA p. 35)

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING TO GOD

This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.
Declare God's glory among the nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples.

Psalm 96: 2-3.

Gracious God, we humbly thank you
for life and health and safety,
for freedom to work, leisure to rest,
and for all that is beautiful in creation and human life.
But, above all, we praise you for our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
for his death and resurrection;
for the gift of your Spirit;
and for the hope of sharing in your glory.
Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A hymn or music may be appropriate here.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Prayer in preparation to the reading of Scripture.

Thank you, Father, for making yourself known to us
and showing the way of salvation
through faith in your Son.
We ask you now to teach and encourage us
through your word,
so that we may be ready to serve you;
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Reading from Old Testament or

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah.

It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Psalm or

Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord:
Lord, hear my voice;
O let your ears consider well:
the voice of my supplication.
If you, Lord, should note what we do wrong;
who then, O Lord, could stand?
But there is forgiveness with you:
so that you shall be feared.
I wait for the Lord, my soul waits for him:
and in his word is my hope.
My soul looks for the Lord:
more than watchmen for the morning,
more, I say, than watchmen for the morning.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy:
and with him is ample redemption.
He will redeem Israel:
from the multitude of their sins.

Psalm 130
APBA p. 364.

New Testament Reading or

Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying:
"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.
"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.
No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5: 2-16

May your Word live in us and bear fruit to your glory.

Sermon or Reflection may be read here.

Affirmation of Faith (this or The Apostles' Creed) may be said.

We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God's people,
and brings all things to their true end.
This is our faith, the faith of the Church:
We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN.

"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson they shall be like wool."

Isaiah 1: 18

Let us now confess our sins to almighty God.

Heavenly Father,
you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of God's forgiveness:

God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2: 4-5

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

*Prayers may be offered
for the world
for the community
for the work of the Church, and
for the needs of individuals.*

Lord and heavenly Father,
you have brought us safely to this new day:
keep us by your mighty power, protect us from sin,
guard us from every kind of danger,
and in all we do this day
direct us in the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Lord bless us and keep us; the Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be
gracious to us; the Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace. Amen.

Numbers 6: 24-26.