

The Gathering of the Community

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8.12

Leader Let us remember before God our selfish ways, the things we have done wrong, the sorrows we have caused, the love we have not shown.

Silence for reflection is kept.

All **Most merciful Father,
forgive us our sins against you
and against each other.
Strengthen us to overcome our weaknesses,
that we may live in love
as you would have us live,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

The priest says,

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Sentence: The kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel. *Mark 1.15*

The presiding celebrant greets the community

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,

All **to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,**

**and from you no secrets are hidden.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Glory to God

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,
All and peace to his people on earth.
**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

Collect

**Almighty God,
without you we are not able to please you.
Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever..Amen**

Canticle VENITE, EXULTEMUS DOMINO. Psalm 95.
COME, let us sing unto the LORD: / let us

heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving,
/ and show ourselves glad in him with
psalms.

For the LORD is a great God, / and a great
King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth: /
and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it: / and his hands
prepared the dry land.

O COME, let us worship, and fall down, / and
kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God; / and we are the
people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

TO-DAY, O that ye would hear his voice: /
‘Harden not your hearts as in the Provocation,
and as in the day of Temptation in the wilderness;

When your fathers tempted me, / proved me,
and saw my works.

Forty years long was I grieved with that generation,
and said, / “It is a people that do err in their
hearts, for they have not known my ways”;

Unto whom I swear in my wrath, / that they
should not enter into my rest.’

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and

to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, / world without end. Amen.

Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

18 The LORD appeared to Abraham^[a] by the oaks^[b] of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. **2** He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. **3** He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. **4** Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. **5** Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on —since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." **6** And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures^[c] of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." **7** Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. **8** Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

9 They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." **10** Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. **11** Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. **12** So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" **13** The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'" **14** Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." **15** But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 116.1, 10–17

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication, *
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

10 How shall I repay the Lord *
for all the good things he has done for me?

11 I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon the name of the Lord.

12 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.

13 Precious in the sight of the Lord *
is the death of his servants.

14 O Lord, I am your servant; *
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

15 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the name of the Lord.

16 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all his people.

17 In the courts of the Lord's house, *
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Hallelujah!

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Romans 5:1-8

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we^[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom we have obtained access^[b] to this grace in which we stand; and we^[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. **3** And not only that, but we^[d] also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, **4** and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, **5** and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to us now

People: Thanks be to God

The Gospel: The Lord be with you,

Response: **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ Matthew 9:35-10:8,

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

10 Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness.

² These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³ Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴ Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. ⁷ As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy,^[b] drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Homily

The Prayers of the People

BAS page 112

(Let us pray with confidence to the Lord, saying, "Lord hear our prayer.")

O Lord, guard and direct your Church in the way of unity, service, and praise.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Give to all nations an awareness of the unity of the human family.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Cleanse our hearts of prejudice and selfishness, and inspire us to hunger and thirst for what is right.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to use your creation for your greater praise, that all may share the good things you provide.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Strengthen all who give their energy or skill for the healing of those who are sick in body or in mind.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Set free all who are bound by fear and despair.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant a peaceful end and eternal rest to all who are dying, and your comfort to those who mourn.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfil now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in

the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Closing Collects:

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light,
look favourably on your whole Church,
that wonderful and sacred mystery.
By the effectual working of your providence,
carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation.
Let the whole world see and know
that things which were cast down are being raised up,
and things which had grown old are being made new,
and that all things are being brought to their perfection
by him through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord;
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

God of reconciliation and forgiveness,
the saving work of Christ has made our peace with you.
May that work grow toward its perfection
in all we offer you this day.
We ask this in his name. Amen

Hymn

May the God of peace who brought again from the dead our
Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the
eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you
may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his
sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and
ever.

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Officiant The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and
be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace. **Amen.**

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