

**Holy Triduum
Morning Prayer**

Holy Thursday

Introduction

Public and common prayer by the people of God is rightly considered to be among the primary duties of the Church. From the very beginning, those who were baptized "devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the community, to the breaking of the bread, and to prayer" (Acts 2:42). The Acts of the Apostles give frequent testimony to the fact that the Christian community prayed with one accord.

The witness of the early Church teaches us that individual Christians devoted themselves to prayer at fixed times... Such prayer in common gradually took the form of a set cycle of hours. This liturgy of the hours or divine office, enriched by readings, is principally a prayer of praise and petition. Indeed, it is the prayer of the Church with Christ and to Christ.

Christ taught us: "You must pray at all times and not lose heart" (Lk 18:1). The Church has been faithful in obeying this instruction; it never ceases to offer prayer and makes this exhortation its own: "Through him (Jesus) let us offer to God an unceasing sacrifice of praise" (Heb 15:15). The Church fulfills this precept not only by celebrating the Eucharist but in other ways also, especially through the liturgy of the hours. By ancient Christian tradition what distinguishes the liturgy of the hours from other liturgical services is that it consecrates to God the whole cycle of the day and the night.

(General Instruction of the Liturgy of the Hours)

Thursday Morning Prayer

ENTRANCE IN SILENCE

INVITATORY

Priest: Lord, + open my lips
All: **And my mouth will proclaim your praise.**

HYMN



1. Je - sus, Teach - er, Lord and Mas - ter, Af - ter
2. Si - mon Pe - ter said in pro - test: "You shall
3. By our lives and our ex - am - ple, May your

1. eat - ing with his friends, Took a towel and filled a
2. nev - er wash my feet!" "You must let me," said the
3. gos - pel strong - ly speak Where your chil - dren live in

1. ba - sin, Washed their feet, and then he said: "In re -
2. Sav - ior, "If my king - dom you would see." "Wash me
3. hun - ger, Where the strong op - press the weak. Je - sus,

1. mem - brance, in re - mem - brance, You must do as I have
2. clean!" cried Si - mon Pe - ter, "Hands and head as well as
3. grant us un - der - stand - ing Of the sav - ing signs you

1. done. In re - mem - brance, you must do this
2. feet!" Je - sus said: "No, my be - tray - er
3. show; In our sac - ra - ment of serv - ice,

1. For God's daugh - ters and God's sons."
2. Is the one not whol - ly clean."
3. Let us live for oth - ers now.

PSALMODY

Antiphon 1:

Deacon: Look, O Lord, and see my suffering.
Come quickly to my aid.

Psalm 80

Lord, come, take care of your vineyard
Come, Lord Jesus (Revelation 22:20).

Deacon: O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
you who lead Joseph's flock,
shine forth from your cherubim throne
upon Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help.

**All: God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

Deacon: Lord God of hosts, how long
will you frown on your people's plea?
You have fed them with tears for their bread,
an abundance of tears for their drink.
You have made us the taunt of our neighbors,
our enemies laugh us to scorn.

**All: God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

Deacon: You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.

Before it you cleared the ground;
it took root and spread through the land.

**All: The mountains were covered with its shadow,
the cedars of God with its boughs.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.**

Deacon: Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field.

**All: God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted.
Men have burnt it with fire and destroyed it.
May they perish at the frown of your face.**

Deacon: May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.

**All: God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

Deacon: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:

**All: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.**

Psalm Prayer

Priest: Lord God, eternal shepherd, you so tend the vineyard you planted that now it extends its branches even to the farthest coast. Look down on your Church and come to us. Help us remain in your Son as branches on the vine, that, planted firmly in your love, we may testify before the whole world to your great power working everywhere.

Antiphon 1

**All: Look, O Lord, and see my suffering.
Come quickly to my aid.**

Antiphon 2

Deacon: God is my savior;
I trust in him and shall not fear.

Canticle: Isaiah 12:1-6

Joy of God's ransomed people

If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink (John 7:37).

Deacon: I give you thanks, O Lord;
though you have been angry with me,
your anger has abated, and you have consoled me.

**All: God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
and he has been my savior.**

Deacon: With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation, and say on that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim his name;

among the nations make known his deeds,
proclaim how exalted is his name.

**All: Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious
achievement;
let this be known throughout all the earth.**

Deacon: Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst
is the Holy One of Israel!

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:**

Deacon: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Antiphon 2

**All: God is my savior;
I trust in him and shall not fear.**

Antiphon 3

Deacon: The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat;
he has filled us with honey from the rock.

Psalm 81

Solemn renewal of the Covenant

See that no one among you has a faithless heart (Hebrews 3:12).

Deacon: Ring out your joy to God our strength,
shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

**All: Raise a song and sound the timbrel,
the sweet-sounding harp and the lute,
blow the trumpet at the new moon,
when the moon is full, on our feast.**

Deacon: For this is Israel's law,
a command of the God of Jacob.
He imposed it as a rule on Joseph,
when he went out against the land of Egypt.

**All: A voice I did not know said to me:
"I freed your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were freed from the load.
You called in distress and I saved you.**

Deacon: I answered, concealed in the storm cloud,
at the waters of Meribah I tested you.
Listen, my people, to my warning,
O Israel, if only you would heed!

**All: Let there be no foreign god among you,
no worship of an alien god.
I am the Lord your God,
who brought you from the land of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.**

Deacon: But my people did not heed my voice
and Israel would not obey,
so I left them in their stubbornness of heart
to follow their own designs.

**All: O that my people would heed me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!**

**At once I would subdue their foes,
turn my hand against their enemies.**

Deacon: The Lord's enemies would cringe at their feet
and their subjection would last for ever.
But Israel I would feed with finest wheat
and fill them with honey from the rock."

**All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:**

Deacon: As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.

Psalm Prayer

Priest: Lord God, open our mouths to proclaim your glory.
Help us to leave sin behind and to rejoice in professing
your name.

Antiphon 3

**All: The Lord has fed us with the finest wheat;
he has filled us with honey from the rock.**

READING

Hebrews 4:14-5:10 (taken from the Office of Readings for today)
Jesus Christ, the great high priest

Lector: Since we have a great high priest who has passed through
the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our
profession of faith. For we do not have a high priest who is
unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who was
tempted in every way that we are, yet never sinned. So let us
confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy
and favor and to find help in time of need.

Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with erring sinners, for he himself is beset by weakness and so must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. One does not take this honor on his own initiative, but only when called by God as Aaron was.

Even Christ did not glorify himself with the office of high priest; he received it from the One who said to him,

*“You are my Son;
today I have begotten you”;*

just as he says in another place,

*“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”*

In the days when he was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to God, who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when perfected, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, designated by God as high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONSORY

Deacon: By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.
All: By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.

Deacon: From every tribe, and tongue, and people and nation,
All: you brought us back to God.

Deacon: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All: By your own blood, Lord, you brought us back to God.

GOSPEL CANTICLE

Antiphon.

Deacon: I have longed to eat this meal with you before I suffer.

Luke 1:68-79

The Messiah and his forerunner

Deacon: Blessed + be the Lord, the God of Israel;

All: he has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets he promised of old
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.**

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath he swore to our father
Abraham:**

**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**

**You, my child, shall be called
the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his
way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be for ever. Amen.**

Antiphon.

**All: I have longed to eat this meal with you before I
suffer.**

INTERCESSIONS

**Priest: The Father anointed Christ with the Holy Spirit to
proclaim forgiveness to those in bondage. Let us
humbly call upon the eternal priest:**

**Lector: You went up to Jerusalem to suffer and so enter into
your glory,**

**All: bring your Church to the Passover feast of
heaven.**

Lector: You were lifted high on the cross and pierced by the soldier's lance,

All: heal our wounds.

Lector: You made the cross the tree of life,

All: give its fruit to those reborn in baptism.

Lector: On the cross you forgave the repentant thief,

All: forgive us our sins.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: Gathering our prayer and praises into one, let us offer the prayer Christ himself taught us:

**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.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray.

Priest: God of infinite compassion,
to love you is to be made holy;
fill our hearts with your love.
By the death of your Son
you have given us hope, born of faith;
by his rising again

fulfill this hope
in the perfect love of heaven,
where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

(ANNOUNCEMENTS)

DISMISSAL

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Deacon: Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.