

MORNING PRAYER

(LAUDS)

Each morning we celebrate God's new creation and the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, even as waking itself is a new creation, a resurrection after the night's sleep. We ask God to open our lips, for even when I pray this office alone, I remember that I am part of a community praying the Church's prayer.

As Martin Luther remembered his baptism when he washed his face each morning, so we celebrate our new life in Christ, touching the water when we are alone, or hearing and seeing it poured or sprinkled when in community.

After the Morning Hymn and Prayer, the Psalter and the Gloria, we hear God's word to us in scripture. Then our attention is focused on a brief part of that scripture, a practice that comes to us from the tradition of Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf who would provide a "watchword" for his flock, a practice that continues among the Moravians to this day. These "heart words" serve to guide but not restrict our time of silent meditation.

We then join the Church through the ages and around the world in the morning canticle, the song of Zechariah. A brief reading from historic or contemporary spiritual classics may follow, after which we lift up our prayers of thanksgiving and supplication, our traditional morning collects, the Lord's prayer, and a concluding collect. We join our voices in a hymn, followed by a blessing. Strengthened by God's grace, we go forth to live a sacramental life in the day ahead.

OPENING

CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

O God, open our lips,

and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

From the rising of the sun to its setting,

we praise your name, O God.

[ADAPTED FROM PSALM 51:15 AND 113:3]

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

(Water may be touched, poured or sprinkled.)

By Word and water

God renews us this day

in the living fountain of God's grace,

and raises us with Christ Jesus

to live a new life in the Spirit.

Satisfy us in the morning

with your steadfast love, O God,

**that we may sing for joy
and be glad all our days.**

[PSALM 90:14]

+MORNING HYMN OR CANTICLE

The Venite Exultemus which follows, commonly sung to psalm tone three or spoken in unison.)

Come, let us sing to the Ho-ly One;*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal-vation.
Let us come before God's presence with thanks-giving,*
and raise a loud shout with *psalms*.
For you, O God, are a great *God*,*
you are great a-bove all *gods*.
In your hand are the caverns of the *earth*,*
and the heights of the hills are yours *also*.
The sea is yours, for you *made* it,*
and your hands have molded the dry *land*.
Come, let us bow down and bend the *knee*,*
and kneel before God, our *Maker*.
For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture
and the sheep of your *hand*.*
Oh, that today we would hearken to your *voice*!

[PSALM 95:1-7 (OSH PSALTER)]

+MORNING PRAYER

(When prayed in community:

The Holy One* be with you; (Or "The Lord" or "God")

And also with you.

Let us pray:)

(one of the following or another morning prayer)

Dawn from on high,
your light illumines all our days.
Awaken us to your visitations throughout this day.
Be merciful in us for the sake of others.
Make us fearless when confronting injustice and need,
that we may give you glory in the power of the Spirit. **Amen**

[DTB]

New every morning is your love, great God of light,
and all day long you are working for good in the world.
Stir up in us desire to serve you,
to live peacefully with our neighbors,

and to devote each day to your Son,
our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

[PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIPBOOK, USA., 20TH C. USED BY PERMISSION.]

PSALMODY¹

PSALTER AND GLORIA

Antiphon

Psalm(s)

Gloria:

Glory to you, O Trinity most holy and *blessed*
one God, now and for-ever, A – *men.*

(on holy days:)

Glory to God: Source of all, Eternal Word and Ho-ly *Spirit*,
one God, holy and bless-ed *Trinity*,
who is now, ever was and ever shall *be*
unto endless ages, A-*men.*

Antiphon

Silence

WORD

SCRIPTURE²

After the reading(s), the reader says

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

Hear what the Spirit is saying:

*Here one or two verses of the preceding scripture
or a part thereof, may be reiterated.*

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION

+CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH (*The Benedictus*)

*(may be said or sung antiphonally to psalm tone three, with the second voice taking the
indented lines, or be sung in unison)*

We bless you, Adonai, God of *Israel*,
for you come to visit us and ransom us from *bondage*.

You have brought forth a strong De-*liverer*
in the house of your child *David*.

This is what your holy prophets an-*nounced*:
deliverance from enemies and from the hand of all who *hate us*;
mercy a-*mong* our *ancestors*,
and remembrance of your ho-ly *covenant*.

This is the promise you swore to our an-*cestor*, *Abraham*,

to make us un-a-*fraid*,
to rescue us from our *enemies*,
to serve before you, holy and just,
all the days of our *lives*.

And this, my little child, shall be called prophet of the Most *High*,
going before you, Adonai, to pre-*pare* your *paths*,
making your people know de-*liverance*
by the forgiveness of their *sins*.

[*Unison*]

Through your merciful compassions, God our *God*,
the dawn from on high shall *visit us*,
to shine on those kept in dungeons and the shadows of *death*
and to guide our feet onto the path of *peace*.

TBE, ALT., OSL

Glory to you, O Trinity, most holy and *blessed*,*
one God, now and for-ever. *A-men*.

[A READING FOR MEDITATION AND REFLECTION]

PRAYERS

(When prayed in community:

The Holy One³ be with you; (Or “The Lord” or “God”)

and also with you.

Let us pray:)

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

Give thanks and pray for the coming day and the needs of the world, then pray one or usually more of the following collects.

God of abundance,
by your Spirit call us anew this day
to hold lightly our goods and possessions,
so that the poor and outcast may find in us generous friends,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

[DTB]

Mighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace do come:
pour into the hearts of all people, we pray,
the true love of peace,
and guide with your wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth,
that in tranquility your work may go forward

until the world is filled with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[BISHOP FRANCIS PAGET, 1851-1911, ALT TJC]

O God, by whom we are guided in judgment,
and who raises up for us light in the darkness:
grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties,
the grace to ask what you would have us to do;
that your Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices,
and in your straight path we may not stumble;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

[JOHN W. SUTTER, JR., INSPIRED BY IS. 30:15 AND
PS. 46:11; FROM SERVICES FOR TRIAL USE: SERIES THREE,
1973, OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND; ALT TJC]

PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTION

COLLECT OF COMMEMORATION⁴

COLLECT FOR THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE*

O Shepherd of us all, who inspired your servant Saint Luke the physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of Jesus: Grant, we ask you, your Spirit to the Order of Saint Luke, that we may proclaim the Apostolic hope, magnify the sacraments, and embody Christ's healing grace for all creation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 forever. Amen.**

(after which a concluding collect such as the following is prayed)

Mighty and everlasting God,
who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day:
defend us with your mighty power,
and grant that this day we fall into no sin,
neither run into any kind of danger,
but that all our doings, ordered by your governance,
may be always pleasing in your sight,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

[BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER]

+HYMN

+BLESSING

May the God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we may abound in hope. **Amen.**

[ADAPTED FROM ROMANS 15:13]

The community may be seated for a time of reflection guided by music.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us.

Let us bless the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

¹For recommended psalms, see *The Daily Office of The Order of Saint Luke*. For the Revised Common Lectionary psalms for Daily Prayer, see <http://www.commontexts.org/publications/index.html>

²For the Revised Common Lectionary readings for Daily prayer, see <http://www.commontexts.org/publications/index.html>