

Sunday Prayers for the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

7 February 2021

The Gathering

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

And also with you.

Venite

May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; •
Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving •
and sing to the Lord with psalms of triumph.

For you, Lord, are a great God •
and a great king above all gods.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

O come let us bow down and worship; •
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

For the Lord is our God; •
we are the Lord's people, the flock that God shepherds.

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

**May Christ the daystar dawn in our hearts
and triumph over the shades of night.**

Blessed are you, creator of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
bringing light and life to all creation,
may we rejoice in this day you have made;
as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Source, Word, and Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God,
you search us and know us.
You are acquainted with all our ways.
**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**
**We turn inward,
failing to follow your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.
We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.
Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.
Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
receive them in your divine mercy.
Amen.**

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.
Amen.

The Psalm

Alleluia! How good it is to sing praises to our God; •
how pleasant and seemly it is to praise the Most High.
**You, Lord, are rebuilding Jerusalem, •
and gathering the scattered exiles of Israel.**

You are healing the broken-hearted, •
and binding up their wounds.
**You count the number of the stars, •
and call them all by their names.**

Great are you, O Lord, and mighty your power: •
yes, and your wisdom is infinite.
**You raise up the lowly, •
and bring down the wicked to the dust.**

Sing to the Lord in thanksgiving; •
make music on the harp to our God,
**who covers the sky with clouds, •
and prepares rain for the earth:**

making the hills green with grass •
and with plants for human use.

**You, O Lord, give the cattle their food, •
and the young ravens when they call to you.**

You set no store by the power of a horse, •
nor by the strength of a warrior.
**But your delight is in those who revere you, •
in those who rely on your mercy. Alleluia!**

Psalm 147.1 –11, 20c

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
‘My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God’?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40.21—31

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Mark 1.29—39

The gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Reflection

The Prayers of the People

Versicle and Response:

V let us pray.

R Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent,
for the sake of the one who dwells among us,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour,
who teaches us to pray:

**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 for ever.
Amen.**

**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.**

The Collect

Everlasting God,
you give strength to the powerless and power to the faint;
you raise up the sick and cast out demons.
Make us agents of healing and wholeness,
that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation;
through your Son Jesus the Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

May God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,
defend you on every side,
and guide you in truth and peace;
and the blessing of God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit,
be with you this day and always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.