

Morning Prayer

Tuesday, May 4



Opening Sentence

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. *Amen.*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Versicle and Response

Lord, open our lips.
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. *Amen.*
Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:
Come let us adore him. *Alleluia.*

Christ our Passover

Pascha nostrum

I Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; I Corinthians 15:20-22

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.
Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.

So also consider yourselves dead to sin,*
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.
Christ has been raised from the dead,*
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death,*
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die,*
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. *Alleluia.*

Antiphon

Alleluia. The Lord is risen indeed:
Come let us adore him. Alleluia.

Psalm 61 *Exaudi, Deus*

¹ Hear my cry, O God,*
and listen to my prayer.
² I call upon you from the ends of the earth
with heaviness in my heart;*
set me upon the rock that is higher than I.
³ For you have been my refuge,*
a strong tower against the enemy.
⁴ I will dwell in your house forever;*
I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.
⁵ For you, O God, have heard my vows;*
you have granted me the heritage of those
who fear your Name.
⁶ Add length of days to the king's life;*
let his years extend over many generations.
⁷ Let him sit enthroned before God forever;*
bid love and faithfulness watch over him.
⁸ So will I always sing the praise of your Name,*
and day by day I will fulfill my vows.

Psalm 62 *Nonne Deo?*

¹ For God alone my soul in silence waits;*
from him comes my salvation.
² He alone is my rock and my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall not be greatly shaken.
³ How long will you assail me to crush me,
all of you together,*
as if you were a leaning fence, a toppling wall?
⁴ They seek only to bring me down from my place of honor;*
lies are their chief delight.
⁵ They bless with their lips,*
but in their hearts they curse.
⁶ For God alone my soul in silence waits;*
truly, my hope is in him.
⁷ He alone is my rock and my salvation,*
my stronghold, so that I shall not be shaken.
⁸ In God is my safety and my honor;*

God is my strong rock and my refuge.

⁹ Put your trust in him always, O people, *
pour out your hearts before him, for God is our refuge.

¹⁰ Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath, *
even those of low estate cannot be trusted.

¹¹ On the scales they are lighter than a breath, *
all of them together.

¹² Put no trust in extortion;
in robbery take no empty pride; *
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹³ God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, *
that power belongs to God.

¹⁴ Steadfast love is yours, O Lord, *
for you repay everyone according to his deeds.

Gloria Patri

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. *Amen.*

The Old Testament Lesson

Wisdom of Solomon 10:1-4(5-12)13-21

¹Wisdom protected the first-formed father of the world, when he alone had been created;
she delivered him from his transgression,

² and gave him strength to rule all things.

³ But when an unrighteous man departed from her in his anger,
he perished because in rage he killed his brother.

⁴ When the earth was flooded because of him, wisdom again saved it,
steering the righteous man by a paltry piece of wood.

⁵ Wisdom also, when the nations in wicked agreement had been put to confusion,
recognized the righteous man and preserved him blameless before God,
and kept him strong in the face of his compassion for his child.

⁶ Wisdom rescued a righteous man when the ungodly were perishing;
he escaped the fire that descended on the Five Cities.

⁷ Evidence of their wickedness still remains:
a continually smoking wasteland,
plants bearing fruit that does not ripen,
and a pillar of salt standing as a monument to an unbelieving soul.

⁸ For because they passed wisdom by,
they not only were hindered from recognizing the good,
but also left for humankind a reminder of their folly,
so that their failures could never go unnoticed.

⁹ Wisdom rescued from troubles those who served her.

¹⁰ When a righteous man fled from his brother's wrath,
she guided him on straight paths;
she showed him the kingdom of God,
and gave him knowledge of holy things;
she prospered him in his labors,

and increased the fruit of his toil.

¹¹ When his oppressors were covetous,
she stood by him and made him rich.

¹² She protected him from his enemies,
and kept him safe from those who lay in wait for him;
in his arduous contest she gave him the victory,
so that he might learn that godliness is more powerful than anything else.

¹³ When a righteous man was sold, wisdom did not desert him,
but delivered him from sin.

She descended with him into the dungeon,

¹⁴ and when he was in prison, she did not leave him,
until she brought him the scepter of a kingdom
and authority over his masters.

Those who accused him she showed to be false,
and she gave him everlasting honor.

¹⁵ A holy people and blameless race
wisdom delivered from a nation of oppressors.

¹⁶ She entered the soul of a servant of the Lord,
and withstood dread kings with wonders and signs.

¹⁷ She gave to holy people the reward of their labors;
she guided them along a marvelous way,
and became a shelter to them by day,
and a starry flame through the night.

¹⁸ She brought them over the Red Sea,
and led them through deep waters;

¹⁹ but she drowned their enemies,
and cast them up from the depths of the sea.

²⁰ Therefore the righteous plundered the ungodly;
they sang hymns, O Lord, to your holy name,
and praised with one accord your defending hand;

²¹ for wisdom opened the mouths of those who were mute,
and made the tongues of infants speak clearly.

The Word of the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Canticle 13

A Song of Praise

Benedictus es, Domine

Song of the Three Young Men, 29-34

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; *

you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; *

on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; *

we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

Glory to you, beholding the depths; *

in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; *
we will praise you and highly exalt you forever.

The New Testament Lesson

Romans 12:1-21

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. ⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Canticle 18

A Song to the Lamb

Dignus es

Revelation 4:11; 5:9-10, 13

Splendor and honor and kingly power *
are yours by right, O Lord our God,
For you created everything that is, *
and by your will they were created and have their being;
And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, *
for with your blood you have redeemed for God,
From every family, language, people, and nation, *
a kingdom of priests to serve our God.
And so, to him who sits upon the throne, *
and to Christ the Lamb,
Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, *
forever and forevermore.

The Gospel

Luke 8:1-15

¹Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

⁴When a great crowd gathered and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable: ⁵"A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell on the path and was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. ⁶Some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered for lack of moisture. ⁷Some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. ⁸Some fell into good soil, and when it grew, it produced a hundredfold." As he said this, he called out, "Let anyone with ears to hear listen!" ⁹Then his disciples asked him what this parable meant. ¹⁰He said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but to others I speak in parables, so that 'looking they may not perceive, and listening they may not understand.'" ¹¹"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones on the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³The ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe only for a while and in a time of testing fall away. ¹⁴As for what fell among the thorns, these are the ones who hear; but as they go on their way, they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵But as for that in the good soil, these are the ones who, when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance.

The Word of the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. *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.*

Suffrages

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.
Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.
Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.
Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.
Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

For Mission

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect of Commemoration

Deepen our devotion, O Lord, and use us in accordance with your will, that inspired by the example of your servant Monica, we may bring others to acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Trinity Cycle of Prayer

Kathleen, Corey, Adelind & Theodore Schade

Let us pray now for our own needs and those of others.

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, 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 life everlasting. *Amen.*

Benediction

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus forever and ever. *Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21*

The Commemoration

We know about Monica almost entirely from the autobiography (the [Confessions](#)) of her son Augustine, a major Christian writer, theologian and philosopher (see 28 August). Monica was born in North Africa, near Carthage, in what is now Tunisia, perhaps around 331, of Christian parents, and was a Christian throughout her life. Her name has usually been spelled "Monnica," but recently her tomb in Ostia was discovered, and the burial inscription says "Monica," a spelling which all AC (Archaeologically Correct) persons have hastened to adopt. (On the other hand, it may simply be that the artisan who carved the inscription was a bad speller.) As a girl, she was fond of wine, but on one occasion was taunted by a slave girl for drunkenness and resolved not to drink thereafter. She was married to a pagan husband, Patricius, a man of hot temper, who was often unfaithful to her, but never insulted or struck her. It was her happiness to see both him and his mother ultimately receive the Gospel. Monica soon recognized that her son was a man of extraordinary intellectual gifts, a brilliant thinker and a natural leader of men (as a youngster he was head of a local gang of juvenile delinquents), and she had strong ambitions and high hopes for his success in a secular career. Indeed, though we do not know all the circumstances, most Christians today would say that her efforts to steer him into a socially advantageous marriage were in every way a disaster. However, she grew in spiritual maturity through a life of prayer, and her ambitions for his worldly success were transformed into a desire for his conversion. He, as a youth, rejected her religion with scorn, and looked to various pagan philosophies for clues to the meaning of life. He undertook a career as an orator and teacher of the art of oratory (rhetoric) and moved from Africa to Rome and thence to Milan, at that time the seat of government in Italy. His mother followed him there a few years later. In Milan, Augustine met the bishop Ambrose, from whom he learned that Christianity could be intellectually respectable, and under whose preaching he was eventually converted and baptized on Easter Eve in 387, to the great joy of Monica.

After his baptism, Augustine and a younger brother Navigius and Monica planned to return to Africa together, but in Ostia, the port city of Rome, Monica fell ill and said, "You will bury your mother here. All I ask of you is that, wherever you may be, you should remember me at the altar of the Lord. Do not fret because I am buried far from our home in Africa. Nothing is far from God, and I have no fear that he will not know where to find me, when he comes to raise me to life at the end of the world."