

Morning Prayer

Tuesday, November 21



Opening Statement

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalms 19:14*

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.

Antiphon

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:
Come let us adore him.

Venite

Come let us sing to the Lord;*
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving*
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
For the Lord is a great God,*
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the caverns of the earth,*
and the heights of the hills are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,*
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,*
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!
The mercy of the Lord is everlasting:
Come let us adore him.

Psalm 97 *Dominus regnavit*

¹The Lord is King;
let the earth rejoice; *
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
²Clouds and darkness are round about him, *
righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.
³A fire goes before him *
and burns up his enemies on every side.
⁴His lightnings light up the world; *
the earth sees it and is afraid.
⁵The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, *
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.
⁶The heavens declare his righteousness, *
and all the peoples see his glory.
⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in false gods! *
Bow down before him, all you gods.
⁸Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments, O Lord.
⁹For you are the Lord,
most high over all the earth; *
you are exalted far above all gods.
¹⁰The Lord loves those who hate evil; *
he preserves the lives of his saints
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
¹¹Light has sprung up for the righteous, *
and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.
¹²Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, *
and give thanks to his holy Name.

Psalm 99 *Dominus regnavit*

¹The Lord is King;
let the people tremble; *
he is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.
²The Lord is great in Zion; *
he is high above all peoples.
³Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; *
he is the Holy One.
⁴"O mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

⁵Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and fall down before his footstool; *
he is the Holy One.
⁶Moses and Aaron among his priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, *
they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.
⁷He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
⁸"O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds."
⁹Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God
and worship him upon his holy hill; *
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

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

A reading from the First Book of Maccabees 3:25-41

²⁵Then Judas and his brothers began to be feared, and terror fell on the Gentiles all around them.²⁶His fame reached the king, and the Gentiles talked of the battles of Judas.
²⁷When King Antiochus heard these reports, he was greatly angered; and he sent and gathered all the forces of his kingdom, a very strong army.²⁸He opened his coffers and gave a year's pay to his forces, and ordered them to be ready for any need.²⁹Then he saw that the money in the treasury was exhausted, and that the revenues from the country were small because of the dissension and disaster that he had caused in the land by abolishing the laws that had existed from the earliest days.³⁰He feared that he might not have such funds as he had before for his expenses and for the gifts that he used to give more lavishly than preceding kings.³¹He was greatly perplexed in mind; then he determined to go to Persia and collect the revenues from those regions and raise a large fund.
³²He left Lysias, a distinguished man of royal lineage, in charge of the king's affairs from the river Euphrates to the borders of Egypt.³³Lysias was also to take care of his son Antiochus until he returned.³⁴And he turned over to Lysias half of his forces and the elephants and gave him orders about all that he wanted done. As for the residents of Judea and Jerusalem,³⁵Lysias was to send a force against them to wipe out and destroy the strength of Israel and the remnant of Jerusalem; he was to banish the memory of them from the place,³⁶settle aliens in all their territory, and distribute their land by lot.³⁷Then the king took the remaining half of his forces and left Antioch his capital in the one hundred and forty-seventh year. He crossed the Euphrates river and went through the upper provinces.
³⁸Lysias chose Ptolemy son of Dorymenes, and Nicanor and Gorgias, able men among the Friends of the king,³⁹and sent with them forty thousand infantry and seven thousand cavalry to go into the land of Judah and destroy it, as the king had commanded.⁴⁰So they set out with their entire force, and when they arrived they encamped near Emmaus in the plain.⁴¹When the traders of the region heard what was said to them, they took silver and gold in immense

amounts, and fetters, and went to the camp to get the Israelites for slaves. And forces from Syria and the land of the Philistines joined with them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

A reading from the Revelation to John 21:1-8

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. ⁷Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. ⁸But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

The Gospel according to Matthew 17:14-21

¹⁴When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, ¹⁵and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic, and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. ¹⁶And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him." ¹⁷Jesus answered, "You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me." ¹⁸And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. ¹⁹Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁰He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Apostles' 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, 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,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. *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

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and 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

Collect of Commemoration

Almighty God, who gave to your servants Mechthilde and Gertrude special gifts of grace to understand and teach the truth in Christ Jesus: Grant that by their teachings we may know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

Trinity Cycle of Prayer

Julia Bruno & Sandra Delzotti

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.

Thanks be to God.

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

Mechtilde of Hackeborn (1240/1241 19 November 1298) was a Saxon (from what is now Germany) Benedictine nun in the monastery of Helfta.

Born Matilda von Hackeborn-Wippa, in 1240 or 1241, she belonged to one of the noblest and most powerful Thuringian families; her sister was the illustrious Abbess Gertrude of Hackeborn (not to be confused with Gertrude the Great, below).

She was famous for her musical talents and was called the Nightingale of Helfta . Gifted with a beautiful voice, Mechtilde also possessed a special talent for rendering the solemn and sacred music over which she presided as *domina cantrix*.

Mechtilde is best known for her revelations. The Lord would say to Mechtilde: Everything you have and by which you can please me you have from me and through me.

In one extraordinary vision she perceived that "the smallest details of creation are reflected in the Holy Trinity by means of the humanity of Christ, because it is from the same earth that produced them that Christ drew his humanity."

At the age of 50, Mechtilde went through a grave spiritual crisis, as well as physical suffering. Much troubled, Mechtilde, first had recourse to prayer. She had a vision of Christ holding in His hand the book of her revelations, and saying: "All this has been committed to writing by my will and inspiration; and therefore you have no cause to be troubled about it." He also told her that He wished this book to be called *The Book of Special Grace*, because it would prove such to many.

Mechtilde died in the Monastery of Helfta, on November 19, 1298.

more at [Wikipedia](#)

Gertrude the Great (January 6, 1256 c. 1302) was a German Benedictine nun, mystic, and theologian.

Gertrude was born on the feast of the Epiphany, January 6, 1256, in Eisleben, Thuringia.

At the age of four, she entered the monastery school at the monastery of St. Mary at Helfta and was confided to the care of Mechtilde (above). She received a thorough education in a range of subjects.

In 1281, at the age of 25, she experienced the first of a series of visions that continued throughout her life, and which changed the course of her life.

Her priorities shifted away from secular knowledge and toward the study of Scripture and theology. Gertrude devoted herself strongly to personal prayer and meditation and began writing spiritual treatises for the benefit of her monastic sisters.

Gertrude produced [numerous writings](#), though only some survive today.

The longest survival is the *Legatus Memorialis Abundantiae Divinae Pietatis* (known in English today as *The Herald of Divine Love* or *The Herald of God's Loving-Kindness*).

The Herald is composed of five books:

Book 2 forms the core of the work, and was written by Gertrude herself.

Books 3, 4, and 5 were written by another nun, or possibly more than one, during Gertrude's lifetime and probably at least in part at her dictation.

Book 1 was written shortly before or after Gertrude's death as an introduction to the whole collection, likely by another Helfta nun.

more at [Wikipedia](#)