

## Morning Prayer

Friday, August 15



### Opening Statement

*Leader*

Their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world. *Psalm 19:4*

### Confession of Sin

*Leader*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Everyone together, all kneeling:*

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.

*Leader*

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.*

### The Invitatory

*All stand.*

*Leader*

Lord, open our lips.

*Response*

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Everyone*

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. Alleluia.

### The Antiphon

The Lord is glorious in his saints:  
Come let us adore him.

## **Jubilate**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.  
Know this: the Lord himself is God;  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.  
For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.  
The Earth is the Lord's for he made it:  
Come let us adore him.

## **Psalm 113** *Laudate, pueri*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

Give praise, you servants of the Lord; \*  
praise the Name of the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> Let the Name of the Lord be blessed, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.

<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down \*  
let the Name of the Lord be praised.

<sup>4</sup> The Lord is high above all nations, \*  
and his glory above the heavens.

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high, \*  
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

<sup>6</sup> He takes up the weak out of the dust \*  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

<sup>7</sup> He sets them with the princes, \*  
with the princes of his people.

<sup>8</sup> He makes the woman of a childless house \*  
to be a joyful mother of children.

## **Psalm 115** *Non nobis, Domine*

<sup>1</sup> Not to us, O Lord, not to us,  
but to your Name give glory; \*  
because of your love and because of your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup> Why should the heathen say, \*  
"Where then is their God?"

<sup>3</sup> Our God is in heaven; \*  
whatever he wills to do he does.

<sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, \*  
the work of human hands.

<sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but they cannot speak; \*  
eyes have they, but they cannot see;

<sup>6</sup> They have ears but they cannot hear; \*  
noses, but they cannot smell;

<sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they cannot feel;

feet, but they cannot walk; \*  
they make no sound with their throat.  
8 Those who make them are like them, \*  
and so are all who put their trust in them.  
9 O Israel, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.  
10 O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.  
11 You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord; \*  
he is their help and their shield.  
12 The Lord has been mindful of us, and he will bless us; \*  
he will bless the house of Israel;  
he will bless the house of Aaron;  
13 He will bless those who fear the Lord, \*  
both small and great together.  
14 May the Lord increase you more and more, \*  
you and your children after you.  
15 May you be blessed by the Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and earth.  
16 The heaven of heavens is the Lord's, \*  
but he entrusted the earth to its peoples.  
17 The dead do not praise the Lord, \*  
nor all those who go down into silence;  
18 But we will bless the Lord, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.  
Hallelujah!

### **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**

#### *Reader*

*A reading from the first book of Samuel 2:1-10*

1Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the Lord; my strength is exalted in my God. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in my victory. 2"There is no Holy One like the Lord, no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God. 3Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. 4The bows of the mighty are broken, but the feeble gird on strength. 5Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry are fat with spoil. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. 6The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. 7The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low, he also exalts. 8He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts the needy from the ash heap, to make them sit with princes and inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and on them he has set the world. 9"He will guard the feet of his faithful ones, but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness; for not by might does one prevail. 10The Lord! His

adversaries shall be shattered; the Most High will thunder in heaven. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth; he will give strength to his king, and exalt the power of his anointed."

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the reading.*

## **Canticle 10** The Second Song of Isaiah

*Isaiah 55:6-11*

*Quaerite Dominum*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord,  
and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.  
For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \*  
and return not again, but water the earth,  
Bringing forth life and giving growth, \*  
seed for sowing and bread for eating,  
So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \*  
it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \*  
and prosper in that for which I sent it.  
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.*

## **The Gospel**

*Reader*

*A reading from the Gospel according to John 2:1-12*

<sup>1</sup>On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup>Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. <sup>3</sup>When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup>And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup>His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup>Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup>He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup>When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup>and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup>Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

<sup>12</sup>After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples; and they remained there a few days.

The Word of the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Silence may be kept after the Reading.*

### **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, \*  
for ever and for evermore.

### **The Apostles' Creed**

*All stand*

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 for ever. *Amen.*

### **Suffrages**

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
*Govern and uphold them, now and always.*

Day by day we bless you;  
*We praise your Name for ever.*

Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
*Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*

Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
*For we put our trust in you.*

In you, Lord, is our hope;  
*And we shall never hope in vain.*

### **The Collect of the Day: *The Virgin Mary, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ***

*Leader*

O God, you have taken to yourself the blessed Virgin Mary, mother of your incarnate Son: Grant that we, who have been redeemed by his blood, may share with her the glory of your eternal kingdom; through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **For Mission**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hardwood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

### **Trinity Cycle of Prayer**

*Kevin McDonald*

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**

*Leader*

Let us bless the Lord.

*Everyone*

Thanks be to God.

*Leader*

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 for ever and ever.  
*Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21*

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## **The Commemoration**

The honor paid to Mary, the virgin mother of Jesus Christ our Lord and God, goes back to the earliest days of the Church. Indeed, it goes back further, for even before the birth of her Son, Mary prophesied, "From this time forth, all generations shall call me blessed."

The New Testament records several incidents from the life of the Virgin: her betrothal to Joseph, the Annunciation by the angel Gabriel that she was to bear the Messiah, her Visitation to Elizabeth the mother of John the Baptist, the Nativity of our Lord, the visits of the shepherds and the magi, the Presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple at the age of forty days, the flight into Egypt, the Passover visit to the Temple when Jesus was twelve, [Matthew 1:16, 18-25; 2; Luke 1:26-56; 2]; the wedding at Cana in Galilee and the performance of her Son's first miracle at her intercession [John 2:1-11], the occasions when observers said, "How can this man be special? We know his family!" [Matthew 13:54-56 = Mark 6:1-3 = Luke 4:22; also John 6:42], an occasion when she came with others to see him while he was preaching [Matthew 12:46-50 = Mark 3:31-35 = Luke 8:19-21], her presence at the foot of the Cross, where Jesus commends her to the care of the Beloved Disciple [John 19:25-27], and her presence with the apostles in the upper room after the Ascension, waiting for the promised Spirit [Acts 1:14]. She is thus seen to be present at most of the chief events of her Son's life.

Besides Jesus himself, only two humans are mentioned by name in the Creeds. One is Pontius Pilate, Roman procurator of Judea from 26 to 36 AD. That Jesus was crucified by order of Pontius Pilate pins down the date of his death within a few years, and certifies that we are not talking, like the worshippers of Tammuz or Adonis, about a personification or symbol of the annual death and resurrection of the crops. His death is an event in history, something that really happened. The other name is that of Mary. The Creeds say that Christ was "born of the virgin Mary." That is to say, they assert on the one hand that he was truly and fully human, born of a woman and not descended from the skies like an angel. On the other hand, by telling us that his mother was a virgin they exclude the theory that he was simply an ordinary man who was so virtuous that he eventually, at his baptism, became filled with the Spirit of God. His virgin birth attests to the fact that he was always more than merely human, always one whose presence among us was in itself a miracle, from the first moment of his earthly existence. In Mary, Virgin and Mother, God gives us a sign that Jesus is both truly God and truly Man. It sometimes happens that someone will report an appearance of the Virgin Mary, bearing a message, usually encouraging faithfulness in prayer. A reader has asked, "How far back do such reports go?" According to Donald Attwater (Penguin Dictionary of Saints), Gregory of Nyssa (335-395) says that the earliest known report of a supernatural appearance of the Blessed Virgin to anyone was of one to Gregory Thaumaturgos (213-270). At the request of a Roman Catholic list member, I point out that the genuineness of these appearances is not official Roman Catholic doctrine. It is perfectly possible to reject all such appearances as delusions, and still be a Roman Catholic in good standing.

Little is known of the life of the Virgin Mary except insofar as it intersects with the life of her Son, and there is an appropriateness in this. The Scriptures record her words to the angel Gabriel, to her kinswoman Elizabeth, to her Son on two occasions. But the only recorded saying of hers to what may be called ordinary, run-of-the-mill hearers is her instruction to the servants at the wedding feast, to whom she says simply, indicating her Son, "Whatever he says to you, do it."

This we may take to be the summation of her message to the world. If we listen to her, she will tell us, "Listen to Him. Listen to my Son. Do what He tells you." When we see her, we see her pointing to her Son. If our regard for the Blessed Virgin does not have the immediate effect of turning our attention from her to the One whom she carried in her womb for nine months and suckled at her breast, to the Incarnate God, the Word made flesh, then we may be sure that it is not the kind of regard that she seeks. A right regard for her will always direct us to Him Who found in her His first earthly dwelling-place.