

Holy Presence Catholic Community
Morning Prayer, May 6

Opening and Invitation

As a new day comes, O God, open our hearts and minds to your love, your presence, and your grace. We begin in the name of God who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Amen.

“Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:5

Lord, open our lips. And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Psalm 95: 1-8

Come let us sing for joy to God

Let's shout joyfully to the rock of our salvation.

Let's come before God's presence with a song of thanksgiving.

Let's shout joyfully with psalms and instruments.

For ours is a great God, and a great Ruler above all gods.

In God's hand are the caverns of the earth, and also the heights of the hills.

God created the sea and has molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before God our Creator.

For we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to God's voice!

Glory be to God, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Words of Confession

Each morning we are graced with a new day, a new beginning. Let us claim this day.

Loving God, you have created us, know us, and claim us as your own. We ask for your forgiveness and grace for all of the times that we have strayed from your path. We ask for the courage to face our errors and willingness to amend our ways, so that we may rest in the peace that only you can give and be your light in this world. Give us the power to love as you love, and to forgive as you forgive.

Assurance

Scripture tells us “If we say, we are without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sin, God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrong doing.” Accept this truth and continue to walk in the path of love, light, and peace. You are a new creation.

The Word of God

Psalm 149

Praise the Lord. Sing to God a new song, and praise in the assembly the faithful people. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the people of Zion be glad in their Creator. Let them praise God’s name with dancing and make music with timbrel and harp.

For God takes delight in all people; the humble are crowned with victory. Let God’s faithful people rejoice in this honor and sing for joy on their beds. May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands, to inflict vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters, their nobles with shackles of iron, to carry out the sentence written against them— this is the glory of all God’s faithful people. Praise God.

Acts 16:11-15

We set sail from Troas, making a straight run for Samothrace, and on the next day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, a leading city in that district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We spent some time in that city. On the sabbath we went outside the city gate along the river where we thought there would be a place of prayer. We sat and spoke with the women who had gathered there. One of them, a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth, from the city of Thyatira, a worshiper of God, listened, and the Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what Paul was saying. After she and her household had been baptized, she offered us an invitation, "If you consider me a believer in the Lord, come and stay at my home," and she prevailed on us.

John 15:26—16:4a

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from God, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from God, he will testify to me. And you also testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.

"I have told you this so that you may not fall away. They will expel you from the synagogues; in fact, the hour is coming when everyone who kills you will think they are offering worship to God. They will do this because they have not known either God or me. I have told you this so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you."

The Word of God. Thanks be to God.

Creed

We believe in God, who places joy in our souls, dancing in our toes and songs in our hearts. We believe God wanted gladness to flow like a river, and so created a bountiful earth with plenty for all to share.

We believe in Jesus, who turned water into wine, celebrated with outcasts and sinners, and touched the broken so that they could leap

and dance. We believe that Jesus opened the doors and set an extra place so we could feast.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who prompts us to smile; who sends us invitations to come and dine; who nudges us to openness and tenderness.

We believe the Spirit is present every time we gather to break bread and is urging us to live joyfully and walk hopefully. Forever, we will live in the embrace of God, and be a witness to resurrection joy. Amen.

Prayers

Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, Your 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.
Lead us away from temptation and deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer for creation: Creator of all that was, is and will be. Turn our hearts and minds to this beautiful world in which we live. Help us to be good stewards for all the water, air, and creatures of this earth, that we may preserve what you have gifted us and are able to pass on your creation forever and ever.

Prayer for our nation: Ruler of all, just are your thoughts and your ways. We thank you for the nation we inhabit, for the freedoms it affords us. We ask for your just guidance as we elect leaders. May we honor the truth, seek integrity, and elect those leaders who care for all of creation and treat it and us as holy. We ask for patience, and passion, and the

willingness to work for leaders to model your love, grace, and acceptance of all.

Prayer for the sick: We raise up to you, O Comforter, all who are in need of healing – be it emotional, physical, or spiritual. Guide us to that quiet place within where we can gather courage, perseverance and hope for ourselves or our loved ones in need. Surround us with that peace only you can give.

Prayer for spring: Bountiful Creator, giver of all that grows from the earth, we lift up our hearts in gratitude for your hope that is sometimes difficult for us to manifest. As the trees bud, the grass turns green, the days become brighter, help us to remember that as part of your creation, we too continue to grow and to bloom. Make us as bright as the sun, and as beautiful as the flowers. May we be a sign of your love, peace and hope.

Canticle of Simeon

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled: my own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people: a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to God, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Light of the world, we come to you with so much to be grateful for....

Grateful for your sustaining grace, mercy, and tenderness. Grateful for a relationship with you that brings light and hope to our lives and the lives of others. Grateful, too, for your unending presence in our lives.

We are grateful for the creation that surrounds and sustains us. The beauty of your trees and flowers, of your seas and mountains. The joy in your creatures – great and small. The wonder of space, the stars; the moon and sun which light our path.

Thank you for the gifts we have been given, the ability to learn and grow in wisdom each day and to deepen our relationship with you; the ability to see your face in every person we meet; the ability to love and be loved, to forgive and to be forgiven.

Thank you God for your everlasting love, for Jesus who makes us a new creation, and for filling our hearts with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Benediction

May the love of God wash over us;
The peace of Christ restore us;
And the inspiration of the Spirit empower us.

Thanks be to God.

In the name of our God who is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier.
Amen.