# 2017 Centennial Convocation Liturgies Third Order, Society of Saint Francis Province of the Americas



Saturday Liturgies June 24, 2017

# Morning Prayer in the Season after Pentecost

#### LIVING WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ORDER: THE COMMUNITY OBEDIENCE

Here, and in all your churches throughout the world, we adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world. Amen.

## Day Twenty-Four - The First Note (continued)

The faults that we see in others are the subject of prayer rather than of criticism. We take care to cast out the beam from our own eye before offering to remove the speck from another's. We are ready to accept the lowest place when asked, and to volunteer to take it. Nevertheless, when asked to undertake work of which we feel unworthy or incapable, we do not shrink from it on the founds of humility, but confidently attempt it through the power that is made perfect in weakness.

Silence

God, we give you thanks for the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis. Grant, we pray, that being knit together in community and prayer, we your servants may glorify your holy name after the example of Saint Francis, and win others to your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O God, by the life of blessed Francis you moved your people to a love of simple things: may we, after his example, hold lightly to the things of this world and to store up for ourselves treasure in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May our blessed Lady pray for us.
May Saint Francis pray for us.
May Saint Clare pray for us.
May all the saints of the Third Order pray for us.
May all the holy angels watch over us and befriend us.
May the Lord Jesus give us his blessing and his peace. Amen.

## THE PREPARATION

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

Blessèd are you, Sovereign God, creator of all;
To you be glory and praise for ever!
You founded the earth in the beginning
And the heavens are the work of your hands.
As we rejoice in the gift our your presence among us,
Let the light of your love always shine in our hearts
and your praises ever be on our lips,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessèd be God for ever!

#### God comes to set us free:

O come, let us worship.

## THE OPENING CANTICLE:

Psalm 63:1-8

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; \*

my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, \*

that I might behold your power and your glory.

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; \* my lips shall give you praise.

So will I bless you as long as I live \*

and lift up my hands in your Name.

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, \*

and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

When I remember you upon my bed, \*

and meditate on you in the night watches.

For you have been my helper, \*

and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you; \*

your right hand holds me fast.

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 OPENING PRAYER

The night has passed and the day lies open before us; Let us pray with one heart and mind; (A moment of silence is kept.)

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day So may the light of your presence, O God, Set our heart on fire with love for you; Now and for ever. **Amen.** 

#### THE PSALM 87

On the holy mountain stands the city he has founded; \*
the Lord loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.
Glorious things are spoken of you, \*
O city of our God.

I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; \* behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia: in Zion were they born. Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in her, \* and the Most High himself shall sustain her."

The Lord will record as he enrolls the peoples, \*

"These also were born there."

The singers and the dancers will say, \*

"All my fresh springs are in you."

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.

#### LECTIO DIVINA Luke 21:20-28

Jesus said, 'When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfilment of all that is written. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

#### LISTENING FOR CHRIST THE WORD

- One person reads aloud the passage of scripture, as others listen for the word or phrase that is especially meaningful for them.
- Silence for two minutes.
- Each person hears and silently repeats a word or a phrase that has attracted them.
- Sharing aloud, each may make a single sentence statement of the word or phrase that has attracted them. No elaboration.

#### HOW CHRIST THE WORD SPEAKS TO ME

- Second Reading of the same passage by another person.
- Silence for two minutes reflecting on "How does the content of this reading touch my life today?"
- Share aloud, briefly, beginning with "I hear. . ." or "I see. . ."

#### WHAT CHRIST THE WORD IS INVITING ME TO DO

- Third Reading of the same passage be another person
- Silence for two minutes reflecting on "I believe that God wants me to . . . today/during this convocation."
- Sharing aloud the result of each person's reflection. Be especially aware of what is shared by the person on your right.
- After sharing, pray in turn, for the person on your right.
- Important note: Anyone may say "pass" at any time. If instead of sharing with the group your prefer to pray silently, simply state this aloud and conclude your silent prayer with "Amen."

#### THE PRAYERS

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,

Who wonderfully created us in your own image in your Son Jesus Christ: Grant that, as he came to share our human nature, so we may be partakers of his divine glory; Who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** 

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray in faith and trust: **Our Father, who art in heaven...** 

#### THE CONCLUSION

All: The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen. Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

## Centennial Celebration Eucharist

#### THE WORD OF GOD

**OPENING HYMN** <sup>o</sup> All Creatures of Our God and King



#### THE ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant:* Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

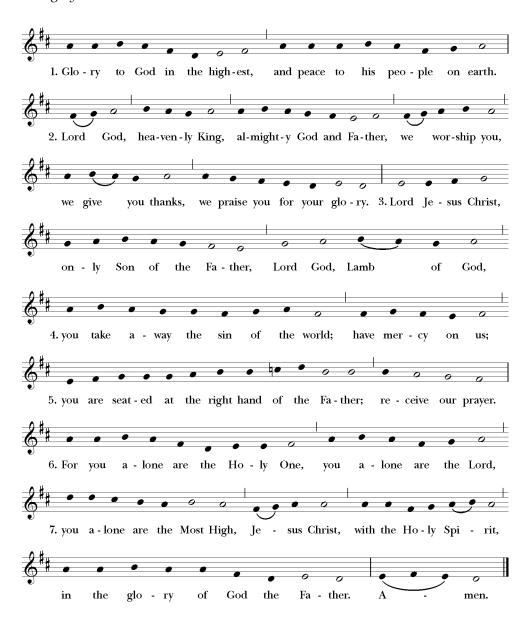
**People:** Glory to God for ever and ever.

### Celebrant:

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** Hymnal S278

Sung by all.



#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant continues.

*Celebrant:* The Lord is here.

People: God's Spirit is with us.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, you ever delight to reveal yourself to the childlike and lowly of heart: Grant that, following the example of the blessed Francis, we may count the wisdom of this world as foolishness and know only Jesus Christ and him crucified; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.* 

## THE FIRST LESSON Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. 'O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.' With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?' He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*Reader:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God

#### PSALM 25:1-10

Read by all, responsively

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; \*

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame; \*

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord, \*

and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, \*

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, \*

for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; \*

remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord; \*

therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right \*

and teaches his way to the lowly.

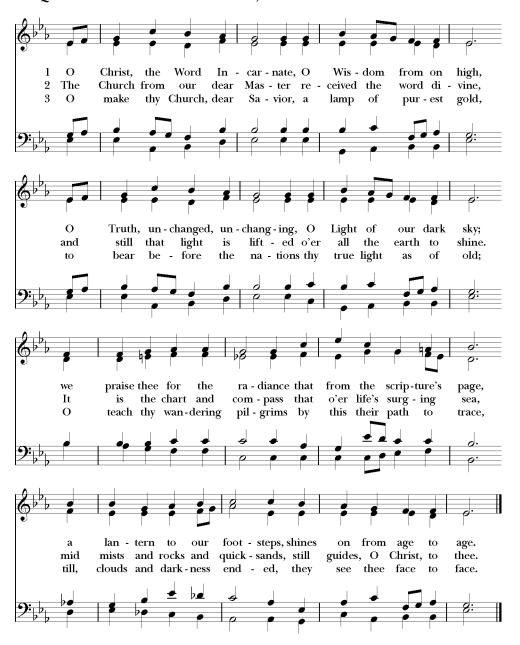
All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness \*

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

For your Name's sake, O Lord, \*

forgive my sin, for it is great.

## **SEQUENCE HYMN 632** ° O Christ, the Word Incarnate



THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 11:25-30

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time Jesus said, 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you

rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord. **People Praise to you, Lord Christ.** 

Diácono Santo Evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, según Matthew.

Pueblo ¡Gloria a ti, Cristo Señor!

En aquel tiempo, hablando Jesús, do: Te alabo, Padre, Señor del cielo y de la tierra, porque ocultasteestas cosas a sabios e inteligentesc, y las revelaste a los niños. Sí, Padrea, porque así fue de tu agrado. Todas las cosas me han sido entregadas por mi Padrea; y nadie conoce al Hijo, sino el Padre, ni nadie conoce1 al Padre, sino el Hijob, y aquel a quien el Hijo se lo quiera revelar. Venid a mí, todos los que estáis cansados y cargados, y yo os haré descansara. Tomad mi yugo sobre vosotros y aprended de mía, que soy manso y humilde de corazón, y hallareisdescanso para vuestras almasb. Porque mi yugo es fácil y mi carga ligeraa.

Diácono El Evangelio de Señor.Pueblo Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.

*Leitor* O Santo Evangelho de nosso Senhor Jesus Cristo, conforme Mateus.

Povo Glória te seja dada, ó Senhor.

Naquela ocasião Jesus disse: "Eu te louvo, Pai, Senhor dos céus e da terra, porque escondeste estas coisas dos sábios e cultos, e as revelaste aos pequeninos. Sim, Pai, pois assim foi do teu agrado. "Todas as coisas me foram entregues por meu Pai. Ninguém conhece o Filho a não ser o Pai, e ninguém conhece o Pai a não ser o Filho e aqueles a quem o Filho o quiser revelar. "Venham a mim, todos os que estão cansados e sobrecarregados, e eu lhes darei descanso. Tomem sobre vocês o meu jugo e aprendam de mim, pois sou manso e humilde de coração, e vocês encontrarão descanso para as suas almas. Pois o meu jugo é suave e o meu fardo é leve".

Leitor Evangelho do Senhor.Povo Louvado sejas, ó Cristo.

THE SERMON The Rev. Thomas Johnson, Minister Provincial

#### RENEWAL OF PROFESSION VOW AND PLEDGE

#### THE INVITATION

All those renewing their pledge of Profession stand before the Officiant.

Officiant: My brothers and sisters, what do you desire?

Each of those RENEWING PROFESSION replies together:

I, (*Name*), desire to renew my promise to serve our Lord Jesus Christ for the rest of my life in company with my brothers and sisters of the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis.

## THE QUESTION

Officiant: Do you accept The Principles as the vision of the Community for the Third Order of the Society of St. Francis?

The candidates reply:

We do.

#### THE EXHORTATION

The Officiant continues

My brothers and sisters, you must always seek to be conformed to the image of our Lord Jesus Christ in the life you would embrace. Continue to serve him by prayer, study and active work for his Dominion. Be ready to endure hardness, calling to mind how our Savior has said that if we would serve him, then we must also follow him; that if we would come after him, we must deny self, take up our cross every day and follow him.

As you embrace this life of living sacrifice, call to mind the example of Saint Francis, the Poverello of Assisi. Let your life in his spirit of holy poverty make our Lord known and loved everywhere, and promote the spirit of love and unity within the family of God. And so observe your personal rule of life that you, like him, manifest humility, love, and joy in the Lord.

The Gospel life in the spirit of Saint Francis cannot be pursued but by the grace of him who said: "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Let us therefore pray to the Lord that you may have grace to persevere in your chosen way.

#### THE LITANY

Litanist: God the Father,

People: Have mercy on us.

Litanist: God the Son,

People: Have mercy on us.

Litanist: God the Holy Spirit, **People: Have mercy on us.** 

Litanist: Holy Trinity, One God, **People:** Have mercy on us.

Litanist: We humbly pray that you will hear us, O Lord, and that you will send peace to the

whole world which you have reconciled to yourself by the ministry of your Son,

Jesus.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That you will guide all in civil authority to establish justice and maintain it for all

people.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

*Litanist:* That you will heal the divisions of your visible Church, that all may be one.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That you will grant to our people forgiveness of sins, and give us grace to amend

our lives.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That you will lead all members of your Church in their vocations and ministries to

serve you in a true and Godly life.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

*Litanist*: That you will raise up able ministers for your Church that the Gospel may be known to all

people.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

*Litanist*: That you will inspire all bishops, priests, and deacons with your love, that they may

hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness; that you will fill them with compassion

and move them to care for your people.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That you will bless our brothers and sisters who seek to serve you in the Third Order,

Society of Saint Francis, and will give them grace to persevere.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That you will bless their families (or house-holds or communities) and adorn them with all

Christian virtue.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Litanist:* That by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit you will sustain those you have called to the

life of the Gospels in the way of Saint Francis, and encourage them to persevere to the end.

*People:* Lord, hear our prayer.

*Litanist:* Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Intercessions may be offered here.* 

Litanist: Lord, in your mercy,
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Litanist: That we, with the Blessed Virgin, Saints Francis and Clare, Saints Louis and Elizabeth, our

patrons, and all the saints who have served you in the past, may be gathered into your

unending Dominion.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Lord, have mercy. **People:** Christ, have mercy.

*Officiant:* Lord, have mercy. Let us pray.

Lord God, you are always pleased to show yourself to those who are childlike and humble of heart; help us to follow the example of blessed Father Francis, to look upon the wisdom of this world as foolishness, and to set our minds only on Jesus Christ, and him crucified, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all praise forever. *Amen.* 

#### **HYMN** <sup>o</sup> Ubi Caritas

The hymn is sung by all in preparation for the Pledges and Renewals

Refrain: Where charity and love prevail there our God is found.

We have been gathered together by the love of / Christ. Let us rejoice now and be glad in / Christ our Lord. Let us fear and let us all love the living / God. And let us love one another with / sincere hearts. *Refrain* 

Therefore, when we are assembled, let us be as / one.

Not to be divided in mind, let / us take care.

Let there be an end to quarrels, an end to / strife.

And may he appear in our midst, our / Christ and God. *Refrain* 

And together with the blessed may we be/hold The glory of your countenance, O / Christ our God, Which shall be for us our chief joy, pure un/bounded, Forever and forevermore, world / without end. *Refrain* 

#### THE PLEDGE

#### RENEWAL OF PROFESSION

Officiant: Let those who are Professed come forward and renew their vow and pledge.

*Professed:* I, (*Name*), renew my pledge to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in the Third Order of the Society

of Saint Francis, according to the Principles of the Order, for the rest of my life; seeking to spread the knowledge and love of Christ, to promote the spirit of love and harmony as the family of God, and to live joyfully a life of simplicity and humble service after the example of Saint Francis. I undertake by God's grace to keep for one year my personal rule of life

which I now place on the altar.

Officiant: May the Lord accept your offering and give you grace to persevere with joy.

## THE BLESSING

When all renewals have been completed, the Officiant says;

To the prayers of the Saints I commend you. May our Blessed Lady pray for you. May Saint Francis, who bore the marks of the Crucified pray for you. May Saint Clare pray for you. May Saints Louis and Elizabeth, illustrious saints of the Third Order, pray for you.

And I shall pronounce upon you the blessing, which blessed Francis gave to Brother Leo, his companion: The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord show his face to you and have mercy upon you; The Lord turn his countenance toward you and give you peace; My brothers and sisters, the Lord bless you.

#### THE PEACE

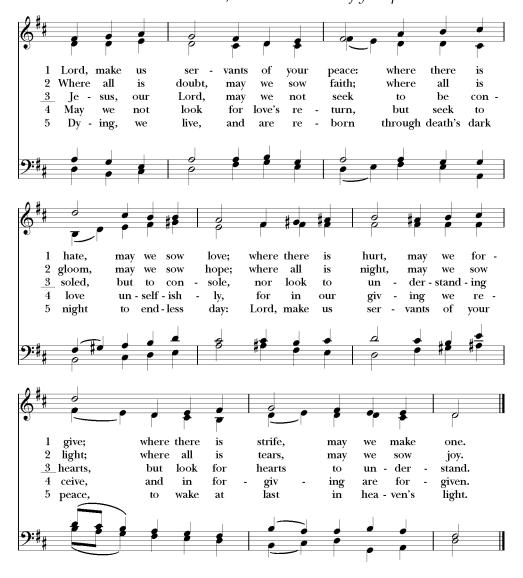
All Stand

*Celebrant:* The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

## **OFFERTORY HYMN 593** Lord, make us servants of your peace



## THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### The Celebrant continues

Prepare to look upon the humility of God. Pour out your hearts before the Lord of the Universe. Humble yourselves that God might exalt you. Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that the Lord may receive your all who gave his all to you.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER OF SAINTS FRANCIS AND CLARE

Celebrant: The Lord is here

People: God's Spirit is with us
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### The Celebrant proceeds

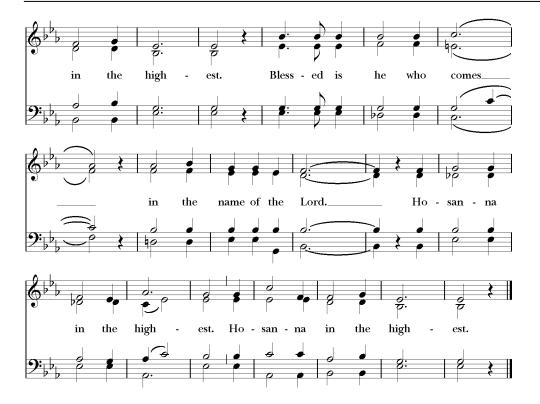
All Powerful, Most High, Supreme Good Lord, we praise and thank you for bringing light to the darkness of our lives. By your Word at creation you brought forth our brother sun and sister moon, and your loving gaze looked upon all that you had made to find it very good. But by sin the world was blinded; by sin we lost our way. Then through your Son you revealed the light of your love. As one of us, you walked among us. Unite us this day to your Son, that we may shine with your glory to the world; by your light help us see and become the light.

Rejoicing in the splendor of your radiance, countless throngs of angels and archangels give you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we break forth in song to sing your joyous praise:

## SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS Hymnal S128

Sung by all.





## The Celebrant proceeds

You are worthy, O God, to be worshipped and praised by all that you have made. For you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, so that all might find new life in him. By your Holy Spirit, you anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, and to release those who are oppressed. Healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and feasting with sinners your Son proclaimed the Kingdom of God was at hand. Living among us Jesus revealed your glory, full of grace and truth. Yet the world rejected him, opposing his mission and witness.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

In all humility, Christ then accepted betrayal and death upon a cross for our redemption. Therefore, O Lord, you raised him from the dead and gave to Jesus the name above all other names, so that all might be humbled to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

Almighty God, as we celebrate this memorial of our redemption, we praise you for your love and mercy revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Remembering his death, rejoicing in his resurrection, we offer all we have and all we are to you.

As we await the return of Christ in glory, let your Holy Spirit come upon this bread and wine and upon us, that we may be filled with your power and grace through the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

All Unite us to your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who brings us out of darkness into the wonderful light.

The Celebrant continues

All this we ask through our Savior Jesus Christ, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. *Amen*.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray,

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

## Said by all

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.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

*A period of silence is kept.* 

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Celebrant says

Arise shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

#### **COMMUNION HYMN**

#### THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

#### All

Most High and Supreme Eternal God, through the mystery of your presence you give us joy. We thank you for giving us a taste of your heavenly kingdom, in the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And now, O Lord, make us instruments of your peace; as we make our way in the world, help us sow your pardon, love and renewal. Empower us by your Holy Spirit to love mercy, to do justice, and to walk humbly with our God, following the examples of Francis, Clare, Louis, and Elizabeth, who with all your saints magnify your holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN** <sup>o</sup> All Creatures of Our God and King



The Celebrant may bless the people.

The Deacon dismisses them.

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

# An Order for Compline

The Officiant begins

The Lord Almighty grant us a peaceful night and a perfect end. *Amen*.

Officiant Our help is in the Name of the Lord; **People** The maker of heaven and earth.

The Officiant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People
Almighty God, our heavenly Father:
We have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
For the sake of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
forgive us all our offenses;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

#### Officiant

May the Almighty God grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.* 

Officiant O God, make speed to save us. **People** O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant and People

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.

#### PSALM 4

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*

you set me free when I am hard-pressed; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory? \*

how long will you worship dumb idols and run after false gods?"

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful; \*

when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*

speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.

Offer the appointed sacrifices \*

and put your trust in the Lord.

Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*

Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord.

You have put gladness in my heart, \*

more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*

for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

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.

Lord, you are in the midst of us, and we are called by your Name: Do not forsake us, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah* 14:9, 22

People Thanks be to God.

#### THE PRAYERS

Leader Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit;

*People* For you have redeemed me, O Lord, O God of truth.

Leader Keep us, O Lord, as the apple of your eye;
People Hide us under the shadow of your wings.

Leader Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Leader Lord, have mercy.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Said by all.

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. Amen.

Officiant Lord, hear our prayer;

People And let our cry come to you.

Officiant Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, for revealing your Son Jesus Christ to us by the light of his resurrection: Grant that as we sing your glory at the close of this day, our joy may abound in the morning as we celebrate the Paschal mystery; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.* 

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.* 

## THE SONG OF SIMEON

Said by all

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

Lord, you now have set your servant free \*
to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, \*
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations, \*
and the glory of your people Israel.
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.

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

#### THE CONCLUSION

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. **People** Thanks be to God.

The Officiant concludes

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. Amen.