



Morning Prayer
Wednesday March 24, 2021
The Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord [transferred]
10 am on Zoom

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. Psalm 51:11]*

"And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
[Matthew 28:20]

Opening Sentence

Examine me, O God, and know my heart, test me and discover my thoughts, and lead me in the way everlasting. [Psalm 139:23-24]

Opening Prayer

(David Adam)

Come, Lord, come to us. Enter our darkness with your light, Fill our emptiness with your presence, Come refresh, restore, renew us. In our sadness, come as joy, In our troubles, come as peace, In our fearfulness, come as hope, In our darkness, come as light, In our frailty, come as strength, In our loneliness come as love, Come, refresh, restore, renew us. **Amen**

The Confession

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. **Amen**

The Invitatory and Psalter

Today, if you would hear God's voice: harden not your hearts.

Invitatory Psalm 67:1-5

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, * show us the light of your countenance and come to us.
Let your ways be known upon earth, * your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God; * let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 40:5-10

5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God!

how great your wonders and your plans for us! *

there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! * but they are more than I can count.

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure * (you have given me ears to hear you);

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, * and so I said, "Behold, I come.

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *

'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'"

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *

behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

The First Lesson: A Reading from The Prophet Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Canticle: Lamentations 1:12, 16; 3:19,22-24,26

Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? *

Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,

Which was brought upon me, * inflicted by God's fierce anger.

For these things I weep; my eyes flow with tears, *

for a comforter is far from me, one to revive my courage.

Remember my affliction and my bitterness, * wormwood and gall!

The steadfast love of God never ceases, * God's mercies never end.

They are new every morning; * great is your faithfulness.

"God is my portion," says my soul, * "therefore will I hope in God."

It is good that we should wait quietly * for the coming of God's salvation.

The Second Lesson: The Gospel of Luke [1:26-38]

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive

in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Song of Mary *Magnificat* *Luke 1:46-55*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him * in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, * he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, * and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, * and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, * for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, * to Abraham and his children forever.

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.**

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 Prayers

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Hear our cry, O God. **And listen to our prayer.**

V. Help us, O God our Savior; **R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.**
V. Look upon your congregation; **R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.**
V. Declare your glory among the nations; **R. And your wonders among all peoples.**
V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;
R. Never forget the lives of your poor.
V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;
R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.
V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;
R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Lord's Prayer

Collect of the Day

Pour your grace into our hearts, O Lord, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ, announced by an angel to the Virgin Mary, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

An Orthodox Prayer for the Feast of the Annunciation

Lord Jesus, who was kind enough to take presence in humble young woman,
kindly live in us and redeem us from the strong bondages of sins and death.
Lord make us good and worthy divine homes, so that you could stay in us. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Women's History Month

Rev. Jude Geiger

Spirit of renewal, God of many names, Loving God and God of Love, we turn this month to reflect on the stories, the heritage and the struggles of the women throughout the ages. May we pause before the silences of the ages, find who has been left out, and craft new ways of inclusion for every week, and every month. May this month of reflection teach us to search for those stories that are different from our own. May we come to know ourselves changed, renewed where we are dry, hopeful where we are lost, and open where we are shut. **Amen.**

A Prayer in Time of Transition

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and for our ministries. Open our hearts to possibilities we have not yet imagined, through Jesus Christ, our Light, our Center, our Hope. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Facing the Coronavirus

Merciful God, hear our fervent prayer for all who suffer from the coronavirus. May those who are infected receive the proper treatment and the comfort of your healing presence. May their caregivers, families and neighbors be shielded from the onslaught of the virus. Give solace to those who grieve the loss of almost 550, 000 loved ones. Protect and guide those who strive to find a cure, that their work may conquer the disease and restore communities to wholeness and health. Help us to rise above fear. We ask all this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for an End to Racism

Lord, Jesus Christ who reached across the ethnic boundaries between Samaritan, Roman and Jew, who offered fresh sight to the blind and freedom to captives, help us to break down the barriers in our community and to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world. **Amen.**

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.**

Blessing

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May Christ guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May Christ bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. And the blessing of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go now to follow the way of Jesus: see others as he did; dare to give freely as he did; to resist temptation as he did; and to love unconditionally as he did. **Thanks be to God.**