

Lent Day 18

Morning Office (observed between 6-9am)

The Call to Prayer

Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;
at a time of distress,* the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them. Ps.32:6

The Request for Presence

O LORD, you will hear the desire of the meek;
you will strengthen their heart, you will incline your ear Ps.10:17

The Greeting

⁹ For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth;
you are exalted far above all gods. Ps.97:9

The Refrain for Morning Lesson

¹⁰ The LORD loves those who hate evil;
he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked. Ps.97:10

The Reading

7 So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. John 10:7-10

The Refrain for Morning Lesson

¹⁰ The LORD loves those who hate evil;
he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked. Ps.97:10

Morning Psalm

- ⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- ⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
- ⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
- ⁸ Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
- ⁹ at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
- He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity. Ps. 98:5-9

The Refrain for Morning Lesson

- ¹⁰ The LORD loves those who hate evil;
he guards the lives of his faithful;
he rescues them from the hand of the wicked. Ps.97:10

Lord's Prayer

Prayer for the Week

Lord God, as we enter our second week of Lent, give us the courage to examine our hearts. Help us to admit our sins of both doing and not doing. May we repent, turn again to you with great confidence that we will be forgiven and loved. Amen.

Concluding Prayer

Dear Holy and Precious Father, we ask your grace and mercy be upon this day. May your Holy Spirit guide us and keep us centered where we need to be. Pick us up when we fall and rejoice with us when we stand for You in this world. Amen.

Midday Office (observed 11am to 2 PM)

The Call to Prayer

Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;
fight against those who fight against me! Ps.35:1

The request for Presence

Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name;
the upright shall live in your presence. Ps.140:13

Greeting

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous,
and joy for the upright in heart. Ps.97:11

Refrain for Midday Lesson

¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name Ps.97:12

Reading

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep John 10:11-15

Refrain for Midday Lesson

¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name Ps.97:12

Midday Psalm

- ¹ The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- ² The LORD is great in Zion;
he is exalted over all the peoples.
- ³ Let them praise your great and awesome name.
Holy is he!
- ⁴ Mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established equity;
you have executed justice
and righteousness in Jacob.
- ⁵ Extol the LORD our God;
worship at his footstool.
Holy is he! Ps.99:1-5

Refrain for Midday Lesson

- ¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name Ps.97:12

Lord's Prayer

Prayer for the Week

Lord God, as we enter our second week of Lent, give us the courage to examine our hearts. Help us to admit our sins of both doing and not doing. May we repent, turn again to you with great confidence that we will be forgiven and loved. Amen.

Concluding Prayer of the Church

Lord let me pause this noon to count the many ways that you love. You love through your creation of your world. You love by creating humans in your image. You love because of your grace and forgiveness. You love all the way to the cross and beyond because of the great sacrifice of Your Son. Thank you God for your Love. Amen.

Vespers Office (to be observed 7-10 pm)

Call to Prayer

But as for me, when they were sick,
I wore sackcloth;
I afflicted myself with fasting.
I prayed with head bowed* on my bosom, Ps.35:13

Request for Presence

Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence? Ps.139:7

Greeting

⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises Ps.98:4

Hymn

Verse 1

**What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer**

Verse 2

**Have we trials and temptations
Is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer**

Verse 3

**Are we weak and heavy laden
Cumbered with a load of care
Precious Savior still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise forsake thee
Take it to the Lord in prayer
In His arms He'll take and shield thee
Thou wilt find a solace there**

Verse 4

**Blessed Savior Thou hast promised
Thou wilt all our burdens bear
May we ever Lord be bringing
All to Thee in earnest prayer
Soon in glory bright unclouded
There will be no need for prayer
Rapture praise and endless worship
Will be our sweet portion there**

Refrain for Vesper Lesson

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things. Ps.98:1

Vesper Psalm

⁶ Moses and Aaron were among his priests,
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.

⁷ He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his decrees,
and the statutes that he gave them.

⁸ O LORD our God, you answered them;
you were a forgiving God to them,
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

⁹ Extol the LORD our God,

and worship at his holy mountain;
for the LORD our God is holy. Ps.99:6-10

Refrain for Vesper Lesson

¹ O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvellous things. Ps.98:1

Lord's Prayer

Prayer of the week

Lord God, as we enter our second week of Lent, give us the courage to examine our hearts. Help us to admit our sins of both doing and not doing. May we repent, turn again to you with great confidence that we will be forgiven and loved. Amen.

Concluding Prayer of the Church

Lord God, it is a delight and a joy to know that you protect and preserve us throughout the day. It is a great comfort to know that whatever this day has brought to us, good or bad, you are with us. The forever presence of your Holy Spirit fills our hearts and souls with peace and joy. Amen.