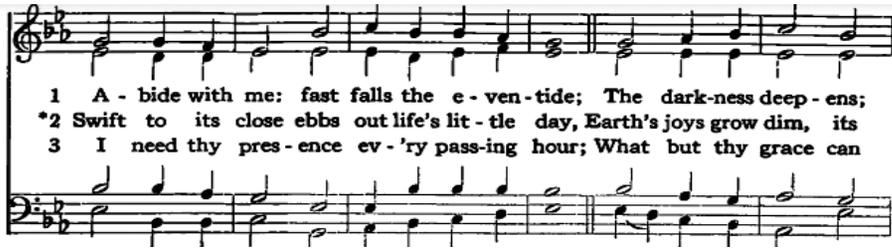
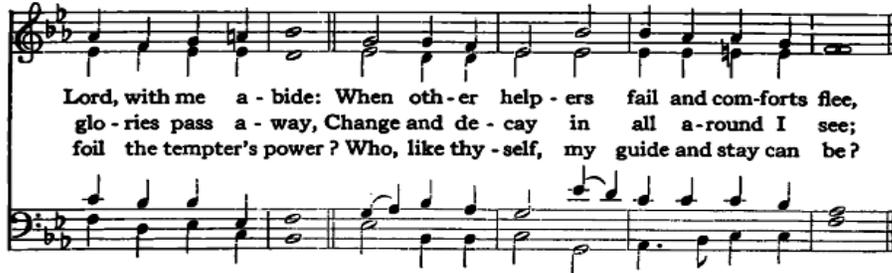


# A Service of Morning Prayer

## Opening Hymn: Abide with Me



1 A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide; The dark - ness deep - ens;  
\*2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day, Earth's joys grow dim, its  
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour; What but thy grace can



Lord, with me a - bide: When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
glo - ries pass a - way, Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
foil the tempter's power? Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.

4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

5 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee:  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me. Amen.

## Lenten Opening Sentences, One or more of the following Sentences of Scripture shall be read.

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and He relents over disaster. **Joel 2:3.**

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; and a broken and a contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. **Psalms 51:17.**

I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. **Luke 15:18-19.**

## Call to Confession

DEARLY beloved, the Scriptures teach us to acknowledge our many sins and offenses, not concealing them from our heavenly Father, but confessing them with humble and obedient hearts that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy. We ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before Almighty God, but especially when we come together in his presence to give thanks for the great benefits we have received at his hands, to declare his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things which are necessary for our life and our salvation. Therefore, draw near with me to the throne of heavenly grace [meekly kneeling upon your knees].

Or this

LET us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God, as we devoutly kneel.

## General Confession, said by all, kneeling.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,  
we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws.  
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done,  
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;  
and apart from your grace, there is no health in us.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Spare all those who confess their faults.  
Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises  
declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life,  
to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

## The Absolution, said by a minister, standing.

May the Almighty and merciful Lord grant you Absolution and Remission of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Versicle.** Lord, open our lips.

**Response.** And we shall declare your praise.

**Versicle.** Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**Response.** As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever.

**Versicle.** Let us praise the Lord.

**Response.** The Name of the Lord be praised.

### **The Venite (said during Morning Prayer)**

Come, let us sing to the LORD; \*

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the LORD is a great God, \*

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture \*

and the sheep of his hand.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*

tremble before Him all the earth.

For He comes to judge the earth; \*

He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His truth.

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd; \*

I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: \*

he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: \*

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, \*

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: \*

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: \*

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

### **The Lesson – John 9:1-41**

**Reader:** A reading from the Gospel according to John.

As he passed by, Jesus saw a man blind from birth.<sup>2</sup> And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."<sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is

coming, when no one can work.<sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."<sup>6</sup> Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud<sup>7</sup> and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?"<sup>9</sup> Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."<sup>10</sup> So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"<sup>11</sup> He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight."<sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.<sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.<sup>15</sup> So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.<sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight<sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"<sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.<sup>21</sup> But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."<sup>22</sup> (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."<sup>25</sup> He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."<sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"<sup>27</sup> He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"<sup>28</sup> And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."<sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.<sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.<sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."<sup>34</sup> They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"<sup>36</sup> He answered, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"<sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you."<sup>38</sup> He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, "Are we also blind?"<sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no guilt but now that you say, 'We see,' your guilt remains.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## The Song of the Three Young Men (Benedictus es, Domine)

Blessed are you, Lord God of our fathers: \*  
praised and highly exalted for ever.  
Blessed is your glorious holy Name: \*  
praised and highly exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you in the temple of your holy glory: \*  
praised and highly exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you who sits upon cherubim and who looks into the depths: \*  
praised and highly exalted for ever.  
Blessed are you on the glorious throne of your kingdom: \*  
praised and highly exalted for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; \*  
As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.

## The Sermon

The Rev'd Ethan Magness, Rector

## 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 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

**Officiant.** The Lord be with you.  
**Answer.** And with your spirit.  
**Officiant.** Let us pray.

## The Lord's Prayer, said by all.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Officiant.** Lord, show us your mercy.  
**Answer.** And grant us your salvation.  
**Officiant.** O God, make clean our hearts within us.  
**Answer.** And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

## The Collect for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Litany in Times of Illness

O God the Father,  
**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Son,  
**Have mercy on us.**

O God the Holy Spirit,  
**Have mercy on us.**

O Holy Trinity, one God,  
**Have mercy on us.**

ALMIGHTY God, creator and judge of us all; You are the great physician who gives sight to the blind and restores the palsied limbs of the lame. We beseech you to rid the earth of this virus. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all who are anxious and uncertain in the midst of this outbreak. We beseech you to save us from all trouble and fear. Be our strong rock, a castle to keep us safe. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for all who have died in the faith of Christ; surround those who mourn with your healing grace. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those directly infected with the virus: help them recover in good health and restore them in body, mind, and spirit. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those at high risk of infection, especially the elderly, those with underlying illnesses, the marginalized, and the poor: keep them free from all sickness. **Lord, hear our prayer.**



For those in quarantine, the shut-in, and the infirmed: help them find peace, keep them in good health. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all hospitals, doctors, nurses, and staff: protect them as they minister to the sick, relieve their stress, and provide the resources and space to meet the needs of all the infirmed. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For first responders: guard them from all harm, and grant them strength and courage as they engage with all calls for help. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For service industry workers and those forced to work as their community shuts down: keep them healthy, bestow the resources to best care for themselves and their families, and assure them of your provision in times of financial and medical panic. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For those experiencing financial loss and uncertainty of resources: have mercy on them, alleviate any fear, and provide daily bread and a living wage.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of this nation and the world: help them make sound and safe decisions. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all schools, students, educators, administrators and school staff: please keep them healthy and of good cheer; as schools close, feed those who will go hungry without guaranteed meals and shelter all students have no place to live. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all scientists, physicians and those working to find a cure: inspire and help them discover and disseminate a vaccine and cure. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all media and journalists: protect them from all harm in their reporting, and move them to be a vector of truth and certainty, rather than fear and panic. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all churches: embolden them to be beacons of Christ's hope and love, and help us to gather, however and wherever we can, to give you praise. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of our church: fortify them to be faithful pastors, to persevere in prayer, and to build up the family of God in new and creative ways. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the young: spare them from illness, harm, and fear, and keep them as a joyful sign of your love and hope. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all parents: build in them strength and fortitude for the time ahead, and give them the words and witness to be wise counselors and compassionate caregivers. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all single people, keep them connected to your church and to life-giving avenues of care. **Lord, hear our mercy.**

Stir up in us a spirit of compassion and tenacity for the time ahead. Enable us to share our resources rather than hoard them, and extend a helping hand to those in need. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

All this we ask through your son Jesus Christ our Lord: healer of the sick, ruler of the tempestuous sea, and Savior of the world. **Amen.**

**Free intercessions may be offered here.**

**The General Thanksgiving**, said by all.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

**A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**, may be said by the officiant.

Almighty God, you have given us grace to bring before you with one accord our common supplications, and you promise that when two or three are gathered together in your name you will grant their requests; fulfill now, Lord, the desires and petitions of your servants, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

# Hymn: O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Words: Wesley, 1739

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/8. The first system of music is followed by five lines of lyrics. The second system of music is followed by four lines of lyrics. The lyrics are:

1. O, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,  
2. Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease!  
3. He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He sets the pris - 'ner free.  
4. Hear Him, ye deaf! His praise, ye dumb, your loosened tongues em - ploy!  
5. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro-claim,  
the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of His grace.  
'Tis mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears; 'tis life, and health, and peace.  
His blood can make the foul-est clean; His blood a - vailed for me.  
Ye blind, be - hold your Sav - ior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy!  
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of Thy name.

## Closing Sentence

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**