

Morning Prayer – Monday, October 12, 2020

### **Opening Words**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. *Psalm 46:1*

***Be still and aware of the presence of the Divine within and all around***

### **Invitatory**

O come, let us sing to the Lord,  
*let us rejoice in the rock of our salvation.*

We sing to you, O God, and bless your name;  
*and tell of your salvation from day to day.*

We proclaim your glory to the nations,  
*your praise to the ends of the earth.*

Glory to the Holy and undivided Trinity, one God:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

### **Scripture – Philippians 1:12-20 (CEV)**

Every time I think of you, I thank my God. And whenever I mention you in my prayers, it makes me happy. This is because you have taken part with me in spreading the good news from the first day you heard about it. God is the one who began this good work in you, and I am certain that he won't stop before it is complete on the day that Christ Jesus returns.

You have a special place in my heart. So it is only natural for me to feel the way I do. All of you have helped in the work that God has given me, as I defend the good news and tell about it here in jail. God himself knows how much I want to see you. He knows that I care for you in the same way that Christ Jesus does.

I pray that your love will keep on growing and that you will fully know and understand how to make the right choices. Then you will still be pure and innocent when Christ returns. And until that day, Jesus Christ will keep you busy doing good deeds that bring glory and praise to God.

### **Prayers**

Make your ways known upon earth, O God,  
*your saving power among all peoples.*

Renew your Church in holiness,  
*and help us to serve you with joy.*

Guide the leaders of this and every nation,  
*that justice may prevail throughout the world.*

Let not the needy, O God, be forgotten,  
*nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Make us instruments of your peace,  
*and let your glory be over all the earth.*

### ***Personal Thanksgivings and Intercessions***

#### **Poem – “Onto a Vast Plain” by Rainer Maria Rilke**

You are not surprised at the force of the storm—  
you have seen it growing.  
The trees flee. Their flight  
sets the boulevards streaming. And you know:  
he whom they flee is the one  
you move toward. All your senses  
sing him, as you stand at the window.

The weeks stood still in summer.  
The trees’ blood rose. Now you feel  
it wants to sink back  
into the source of everything. You thought  
you could trust that power  
when you plucked the fruit:  
now it becomes a riddle again  
and you again a stranger.

Summer was like your house: you know  
where each thing stood.  
Now you must go out into your heart  
as onto a vast plain. Now  
the immense loneliness begins.

The days go numb, the wind  
sucks the world from your senses like withered leaves.

Through the empty branches the sky remains.  
It is what you have.  
Be earth now, and evensong.  
Be the ground lying under that sky.  
Be modest now, like a thing  
ripened until it is real,  
so that he who began it all  
can feel you when he reaches for you.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

### **Closing Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
we thank you that you have brought us safely  
to the beginning of this day.  
Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger,  
and guide us to do always what is right in your eyes;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. *Amen.*

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Poem – “Onto a Vast Plain” by Rainer Maria Rilke from *Book of Hours, II 1*, Translated by Joanna Macy and Anita Barrows.