

# Morning Prayer for Wednesday After Proper 7

## Opening Sentence

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalm 43:3*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

V: Lord, open our lips.

R: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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

## Venite *Psalm 95:1-7*

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. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

## The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

### Psalm 101 *Misericordiam et iudicium*

<sup>1</sup> I will sing of mercy and justice; \*  
to you, O LORD, will I sing praises.

<sup>2</sup> I will strive to follow a blameless course; oh, when will you come to me? \*  
I will walk with sincerity of heart within my house.

<sup>3</sup> I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; \*

I hate the doers of evil deeds; they shall not remain with me.

<sup>4</sup> A crooked heart shall be far from me; \*

I will not know evil.

<sup>5</sup> Those who in secret slander their neighbors I will destroy; \*  
those who have a haughty look and a proud heart I cannot abide.

<sup>6</sup> My eyes are upon the faithful in the land, that they may dwell with me, \*  
and only those who lead a blameless life shall be my servants.

<sup>7</sup> Those who act deceitfully shall not dwell in my house, \*  
and those who tell lies shall not continue in my sight.

<sup>8</sup> I will soon destroy all the wicked in the land, \*  
that I may root out all evildoers from the city of the LORD.

### **Psalm 109** *Deus, laudem*

<sup>1</sup> Hold not your tongue, O God of my praise; \*  
for the mouth of the wicked, the mouth of the deceitful, is opened against me.

<sup>2</sup> They speak to me with a lying tongue; \*  
they encompass me with hateful words and fight against me without a cause.

<sup>3</sup> Despite my love, they accuse me; \*  
but as for me, I pray for them.

<sup>4</sup> They repay evil for good, \*  
and hatred for my love.

<sup>5</sup> Set a wicked man against him, \*  
and let an accuser stand at his right hand.

<sup>6</sup> When he is judged, let him be found guilty, \*  
and let his appeal be in vain.

<sup>7</sup> Let his days be few, \*  
and let another take his office.

<sup>8</sup> Let his children be fatherless, \*  
and his wife become a widow.

<sup>9</sup> Let his children be waifs and beggars; \*  
let them be driven from the ruins of their homes.

<sup>10</sup> Let the creditor seize everything he has; \*  
let strangers plunder his gains.

<sup>11</sup> Let there be no one to show him kindness, \*  
and none to pity his fatherless children.

<sup>12</sup> Let his descendants be destroyed, \*  
and his name be blotted out in the next generation.

<sup>13</sup> Let the wickedness of his fathers be remembered before the LORD, \*  
and his mother's sin not be blotted out;

<sup>14</sup> Let their sin be always before the LORD; \*  
but let him root out their names from the earth;

<sup>15</sup> Because he did not remember to show mercy, \*  
but persecuted the poor and needy and sought to kill the brokenhearted.

<sup>16</sup> He loved cursing, let it come upon him; \*  
he took no delight in blessing, let it depart from him.

<sup>17</sup> He put on cursing like a garment, \*

let it soak into his body like water and into his bones like oil;  
18 Let it be to him like the cloak which he wraps around himself, \*  
and like the belt that he wears continually.  
19 Let this be the recompense from the LORD to my accusers, \*  
and to those who speak evil against me.  
20 But you, O Lord my God, oh, deal with me according to your Name; \*  
for your tender mercy's sake, deliver me.  
21 For I am poor and needy, \*  
and my heart is wounded within me.  
22 I have faded away like a shadow when it lengthens; \*  
I am shaken off like a locust.  
23 My knees are weak through fasting, \*  
and my flesh is wasted and gaunt.  
24 I have become a reproach to them; \*  
they see and shake their heads.  
25 Help me, O LORD my God; \*  
save me for your mercy's sake.  
26 Let them know that this is your hand, \*  
that you, O LORD, have done it.  
27 They may curse, but you will bless; \*  
let those who rise up against me be put to shame, and your servant will rejoice.  
28 Let my accusers be clothed with disgrace \*  
and wrap themselves in their shame as in a cloak.  
29 I will give great thanks to the LORD with my mouth; \*  
in the midst of the multitude will I praise him;  
30 Because he stands at the right hand of the needy, \*  
to save his life from those who would condemn him.

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 Lessons

A reading from 1 Samuel 7:2-17

From the day that the ark was lodged at Kiriath-jearim, a long time passed, some twenty years, and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD. Then Samuel said to all the house of Israel, "If you are returning to the LORD with all your heart, then put away the foreign gods and the Astartes from among you. Direct your heart to the LORD, and serve him only, and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines." So Israel put away the Baals and the Astartes, and they served the LORD only. Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the LORD for you." So they gathered at Mizpah, and drew water and poured it out before the LORD. They fasted that day, and said, "We have sinned against the LORD." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. When the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it they were afraid of the Philistines. The people of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the LORD

our God for us, and pray that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines." So Samuel took a sucking lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the LORD; Samuel cried out to the LORD for Israel, and the LORD answered him. As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel; but the LORD thundered with a mighty voice that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion; and they were routed before Israel. And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and struck them down as far as beyond Beth-car. Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah, and named it Ebenezer; for he said, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel; the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. The towns that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath; and Israel recovered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites. Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. He went on a circuit year by year to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah; and he judged Israel in all these places. Then he would come back to Ramah, for his home was there; he administered justice there to Israel, and built there an altar to the LORD.

Here ends the Reading.

**The Third Song of Isaiah** *Surge, illuminare*  
*Isaiah 60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19*

Arise, shine, for your light has come, \*  
and the glory of the Lord has dawned upon you.  
For behold, darkness covers the land; \*  
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.  
But over you the Lord will rise, \*  
and his glory will appear upon you.  
Nations will stream to your light, \*  
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.  
Your gates will always be open; \*  
by day or night they will never be shut.  
They will call you, The City of the Lord, \*  
The Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Violence will no more be heard in your land, \*  
ruin or destruction within your borders.  
You will call your walls, Salvation, \*  
and all your portals, Praise.  
The sun will no more be your light by day; \*  
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.  
The Lord will be your everlasting light, \*  
and your God will be your glory.

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.

A reading from Acts 6:1-15

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Here ends the Reading.

**The Song of Zechariah** *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

*Luke 1: 68-79*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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 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**

V: The Lord be with you.  
R: *And also with you.*  
Let us pray.

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.

## **Suffrages A**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R. And grant us your salvation.  
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R. Let your people sing with joy.  
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R. For only in you can we live in safety.  
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.  
V. Let your way be known upon earth;  
R. Your saving health among all nations.  
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.  
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

*Collect of the Day*

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*A Collect for Grace*

O Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Prayer for Mission*

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

*The General Thanksgiving*

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*

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

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. 2 Corinthians 13:14*