



A Pilgrim's Morning Praise

Invitatory: (Psalm 51:15 & Lamentations 3:22-23)

Oh Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

The Lord's unfailing love and mercy never cease. Fresh as the morning and sure as the sunrise — the Lord's unfailing love and mercy never cease.

Laudation: (Hymn Tune *Tramps & Hawkers*)

At break of day we sing God's praise as sunlight fills the sky, and cast our eyes on light and life as song birds take to flight. The many rich and radiant hues of God's love manifest invite our praise of God this day as we arise from rest.

God opens up God's mighty hand and gives us what we need. And in response we live our lives with gratitude our creed. May all our words and deeds, O Lord, throughout the coming day, glorify your name above all names as we your love repay.



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The Lord's abiding steadfast love and mercy never cease. The risen Lord abides with us and offers us his peace. May we, who know the peace of God, follow in his faithful way, and honor God above all else as we that peace display.

Psalm 8 †



O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress * against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,* the moon and the stars you have set in their courses, what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

Yet you have made them little less than divine;* with glory and honor you crown them. You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Praise the Father, the Son, and the holy Spirit* both now and forever. The God who is, who was, and is to come at the end of the ages.

Silent Reflection

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Silent Reflection

I AM statement — John 10:11-15

11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The 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. 13 The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

Wednesday Morning Collect: (Psalm 51:15; Lamentations 3:22-23; Psalm 23; Genesis 1:14-19; John 10:11, 14; Ephesians 2:8; Jeremiah 22:16.)

Lord, you are the good shepherd: the one willing to lay down your life for the sheep. You call me and I follow because I recognize your voice. Lead me Lord, through the peregrinations of this day — to green pastures, to still waters, in right paths. Should trial and trouble confound me, may I take note of your rod and your staff and regain my confidence that goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

Lord God, on this fourth day of the week I offer my glad praise and thanksgiving for the gifts of all creation. This day I am particularly glad for the Sun, & Moon, and stars which you have given “for signs and for seasons and for days and years.” The calendars which your heavenly orbs have made possible, allow us to bring the garden of creation to an astonishing fruitfulness. Help me, Lord, to learn from creation that things need time to become what you have made them to be.

Preserve me this day from the sin of Hubris — from the sort of pride and arrogance which distorts my self-understanding and which creates a chasm between me and others and between me and you also. From all impulses to set up shop as my own Lord, preserve me. I confess the sin of pride which threatens to keep me from the gift of salvation because I insist on earning my place. Help me embrace the humility which eschews the need to control others. Teach me

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wisdom to see that it is the ultimate arrogance to think that I will control you.

May I show the virtue of Prudence — and rightly understand my true place in relationship to you and to those I meet today. May I come to embody the wisdom of humility, and to show that I truly know you through acts of justice and mercy to all whom you love. Today in moments when I need to surrender, help me to embrace this most important posture for discipleship. In the name of the one who in humility loved and suffered for my sake, my good shepherd, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Canticle of Simeon (NRSV Luke 2:25-32)

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

Dismissal: (Romans 12:1-2)

The apostle's appeal is this, “present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God as an act of spirit-filled worship. Do not let yourself conform to the values of this world, but rather, let yourself be transformed by the renewing of your mind — that you might live out the will of God, doing what is good and acceptable.” I will do this today, with the help of God.

† *The Psalms are taken from The Book of Common Worship: Daily Prayer, Westminster John Knox Press. Used by Permission.*

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