

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
for January 31, 2021  
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**



Jesus casts out the unclean spirit. by Konrad von Friesach ~1450 Heard Collection, Vanderbilt University

He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.

CP 384 Praise to the Lord, The Almighty

1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation:  
All ye who hear,  
brothers and sisters draw near,  
praise him in glad adoration.

2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth  
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:  
hast thou not seen  
how thy entreaties have been granted in what he ordaineth?

3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:  
ponder anew  
what the Almighty can do,  
if with his love he befriend thee.

4 Praise to the Lord, who, when tempests their warfare are waging,  
who, when the elements madly around thee are raging,  
biddeth them cease,  
turneth their fury to peace,  
whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

5 Praise to the Lord, who when darkness  
of sin is abounding,  
who when the godless do triumph, all  
virtue confounding,  
sheddeth his light,  
chaseth the horrors of night,  
saints with his mercy surrounding.

6 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me  
adore him!  
All that hath life and breath come now with  
praises before him!  
Let the Amen  
sound from his people again:  
gladly for aye we adore him.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
And the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
Be with you all.

**And also with you.**

May his grace and peace be with you.  
**May he fill our hearts with joy.**

Almighty God,  
**To you all hearts are open,  
All desires known,  
And from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
That we may perfectly love you,  
And worthily magnify your holy name;  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Lord is our refuge and strength: O come, let us worship.

Psalm 111 Response: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.

111:1 Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

111:2 Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

111:3 Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

111:4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

111:5 He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

111:6 He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

111:7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

111:8 They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

111:9 He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

### A Reading from Deuteronomy 18:15-20

18:15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet.

18:16 This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die."

18:17 Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said.

18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command.

18:19 Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable.

18:20 But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak--that prophet shall die."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### CCLI 2986399 Ancient Words

1. Holy words long preserved  
For our walk in this world  
They resound with God's own heart  
O let the ancient words impart

2. Words of life words of hope  
Give us strength help us cope  
In this world where'er we roam  
Ancient words will guide us home

Chorus: Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart

3. Holy words of our faith  
Handed down to this age  
Came to us through sacrifice  
O heed the faithful words of Christ

Chorus: Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart  
Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart

4. Martyr's blood stains each page  
They have died for this faith  
Hear them cry through the years  
Heed these words and hold them dear

Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart

Chorus: Ancient words ever true  
Changing me changing you  
We have come with open hearts  
O let the ancient words impart

We have come with open hearts  
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O let the ancient words impart

### A Reading from I Corinthians 8:1-13

8:1 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.

8:2 Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge;

8:3 but anyone who loves God is known by him.

8:4 Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one."

8:5 Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as in fact there are many gods and many lords--

8:6 yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

8:7 It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

8:8 "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

8:9 But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

8:10 For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols?

8:11 So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.

8:12 But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.

8:13 Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CP 487 Where Charity and Love Prevail

1. Where charity and love  
There God is ever found  
Brought here together by Christ's love  
By love we are thus bound

2. With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn  
Let us with heart and mind and strength  
Now love Him in return

3. Forgive we now each other's faults  
As we our faults confess  
Let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness

4. Let strife among us be unknown  
Let all contention cease  
Be His the glory that we seek  
Be ours His holy peace

## The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Mark 1:21-28

1:21 They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught.

1:22 They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

1:23 Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit,

1:24 and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."

1:25 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!"

1:26 And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him.

1:27 They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

1:28 At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon by the Rev. Heather Liddell

Special Music

1. Precious blood has left me forgiven  
Pure like the freshest of snow  
Powerful to make sin and shame retreat  
This covenant is making me whole

Chorus

So I will rise and lift my head  
For by His mercy my life was spared  
The highest Name has set me free  
Because of Jesus my heart is clean

2. Purify my heart in Your presence  
Teach me to discover the joy  
Of holiness that forms as You draw me  
close  
In You what was lost is restored

Chorus

So I will rise and lift my head  
For by His mercy my life was spared  
The highest Name has set me free  
Because of Jesus my heart is clean  
So I will rise and lift my head  
For by His mercy my life was spared  
The highest Name has set me free  
Because of Jesus my heart is clean

Affirmation of Faith (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.**

Prayers of the People compiled and led by the Rev. Alison Westervelt

As the people gathered in Capernaum to hear Jesus' word, we too have come together  
to hear God's word. Let us boldly offer our prayers to God saying, Lord in your mercy,  
hear our prayer

**Hear our prayer.**

Creator of all, look with favour upon the people of the world. In your mercy, give to all people the necessities of a dignified life: shelter, food, clothing, employment, companionship, relief from addictions and a safe environment. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Ruler of creation, grant wisdom and understanding, fairness and compassion, justice and mercy to the leaders of all nations. Guide them to the ways of peace and reconciliation. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Lord of the church, gather us all into one Holy Communion. Give us courage to look to you alone as the source of our unity and strength.

For the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

For the Diocese of Montreal and her bishop, the Rt. Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson.

For the Buyé Diocese, the Kigina Parish and her rector, Emmanuel N-tak-iruti-mana.

For St. John the Divine, Onoway and her rector, Cheryl Boulet.

For the people of the Métis Nation of Alberta.

For our Diocese of Edmonton and her bishop, Jane, especially at this time as she mourns the loss of her mother .

For our own dear St. Peter's and all who call her their spiritual home, especially all those who so faithfully and joyfully serve you in so many ways. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Great Physician, bring healing to all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit. We pray for those we know and love, especially Sandra, Merle, Mona, Nicole, Lois, Ray, Evelyn, Irene and Sandy, Joyce, Jaclyn, Jim and Par, and Kathryn, for those known only to you and those we name now either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

We pray for all who continue to suffer because of the corona virus., those who live and work in long term care homes, those who are confined to or work in hospitals, all front line workers in all the fields that we depend on for so many things, those working to produce the much needed vaccines and those responsible for deploying them to the people, all whose lives have been affected, give us patience, kindness, and hope that in the proper time, all will be well. Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer**

Spirit of the Living Christ, fill us with expectation and eager longing for the coming of the day when no one will suffer, but where all will be gathered together in heavenly joy and eternal love. We pray for those whose earthly journey has come to an end and who you have called home, Alan Oliver, and all those we hold close in our hearts. Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Compassionate Father, it has been a long while since we have been able to gather as one body in your presence to worship you in fellowship and community. We long for the time that we can gather again in our beloved St. Peter's and experience the joy and fellowship of shared worship in a shared space. We ask for trust and for patience, not only for ourselves, but for all worshipping communities, so that when the time is right, we can open our doors and once again, carefully and with the safety of all in our minds and hearts, come together again in love and fellowship.

Until that time, we thank you for the many opportunities you have granted us to worship in different ways and we ask that you make us always mindful that the church is not the building where worship happens but that the church lives in us as you live in us.

Accept our prayers and praises, dear God, in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, now and forever. Amen

Collect

**Living God,  
in Christ you make all things new.  
Transform the poverty of our nature  
by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 631 The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy

1. The kingdom of God is justice and joy;  
For Jesus restores what sin would  
destroy.  
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;  
And here and hereafter the kingdom shall  
grow.

3. The kingdom of God is challenge and  
choice:  
Believe the good news, repent and  
rejoice!  
His love for us sinners brought Christ to  
his cross:  
Our crisis of judgement for gain or for loss.

2. The kingdom of God is mercy and  
grace;  
The captives are freed, the sinners find  
place,  
The outcast are welcomed God's banquet  
to share;  
And hope is awakened in place of despair.

4. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the  
goal;  
In Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.  
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his  
call;  
And all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

The Dismissal

He took our infirmities and bore our diseases.

Let us bless the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of peace enable us to do His will in every kind of goodness  
working in us what pleases Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the  
glory for ever and ever, Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**