

**A Service of Morning Prayer  
Wednesday, March 8, 2023  
Lent 2**



Welcome:

CP 447 Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness

1 Lord, we hear your word with gladness:  
you have spoken— we rejoice:  
words of love and life and freedom—  
help us make their truth our choice!  
Now in holy celebration  
for your Word we worship you;  
spoken, written, known in Jesus,  
ours today to prove anew.

3 You have spoken; yours the fullness,  
ours the wealth of this your Word:  
debtors, then as living letters,  
we must make your gospel heard!  
By your Spirit's power transform us;  
shed your saving light abroad  
till our lives by love in action  
show our world the truth of God!

2 May we hear with understanding,  
by your Spirit taught and led;  
may the springs of all our being  
by your living Word be fed;  
may our hearts accept with meekness  
all the grace your light makes known;  
may obedience mark our footsteps  
till we make each word our own!

Gathering: 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.**

Trisagion: Holy God,  
 Holy and mighty,  
 Holy and immortal one,  
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

### Psalm 119:73-96

<sup>73</sup> Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.  
<sup>74</sup> Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word.  
<sup>75</sup> I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right, and that in faithfulness you have humbled me.  
<sup>76</sup> Let your steadfast love become my comfort according to your promise to your servant.  
<sup>77</sup> Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight.  
<sup>78</sup> Let the arrogant be put to shame, because they have subverted me with guile; as for me, I will meditate on your precepts.  
<sup>79</sup> Let those who fear you turn to me, so that they may know your decrees.  
<sup>80</sup> May my heart be blameless in your statutes, so that I may not be put to shame.  
<sup>81</sup> My soul languishes for your salvation; I hope in your word.  
<sup>82</sup> My eyes fail with watching for your promise; I ask, 'When will you comfort me?'  
<sup>83</sup> For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten your statutes.  
<sup>84</sup> How long must your servant endure? When will you judge those who persecute me?  
<sup>85</sup> The arrogant have dug pitfalls for me; they flout your law.  
<sup>86</sup> All your commandments are enduring; I am persecuted without cause; help me!  
<sup>87</sup> They have almost made an end of me on earth; but I have not forsaken your precepts.  
<sup>88</sup> In your steadfast love spare my life, so that I may keep the decrees of your mouth.  
<sup>89</sup> The Lord exists for ever; your word is firmly fixed in heaven.  
<sup>90</sup> Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.  
<sup>91</sup> By your appointment they stand today, for all things are your servants.  
<sup>92</sup> If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my misery.  
<sup>93</sup> I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life.  
<sup>94</sup> I am yours; save me, for I have sought your precepts.  
<sup>95</sup> The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider your decrees.  
<sup>96</sup> I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad.

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 4: 1-20

Again he began to teach beside the sea. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the sea and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the sea on the land.

<sup>2</sup> He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them:

<sup>3</sup> Listen! A sower went out to sow.

<sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seed fell on a path, and the birds came and ate it up.

<sup>5</sup> Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil.

<sup>6</sup> And when the sun rose, it was scorched, and since it had no root it withered away.

<sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain.

<sup>8</sup> Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.”

<sup>9</sup> And he said, If you have ears to hear, then hear!

<sup>10</sup> When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables.

<sup>11</sup> And he said to them, To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything comes in parables,

<sup>12</sup> in order that they may indeed look but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.

<sup>13</sup> And he said to them, Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables?

<sup>14</sup> The sower sows the word.

<sup>15</sup> These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them.

<sup>16</sup> And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy.

<sup>17</sup> But they have no root and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away.

<sup>18</sup> And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word,

<sup>19</sup> but the cares of the age and the lure of wealth and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing.

<sup>20</sup> And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.

### CP 478 Almighty God, Thy Word is Cast

1 Almighty God, thy word is cast  
like seed into the ground:  
now let the dew of heaven descend  
and righteous fruits abound.

2 Let not the foe of righteousness  
this holy seed remove:  
but give it root in every heart,  
to bring forth fruits of love.

3 Let not the world's deceitful cares  
the rising plant destroy;  
but let it yield a hundredfold  
the fruits of peace and joy.

4 Oft as the precious seed is sown,  
thy quickening grace bestow,  
that all whose souls the truth receive  
its saving power may know.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison WesterveltCCLI 7067249 Jesus

1 There is a truth older than the ages  
 There is a promise of things yet to come  
 There is One born for our salvation  
 Jesus  
 There is a light that overwhelms the darkness  
 There is a kingdom that forever reigns  
 There is freedom from the chains that bind us  
 Jesus, Jesus

***Chorus 1***

***Who walks on the waters***  
***Who speaks to the sea***  
***Who stands in the fire beside me***  
***He roars like a lion***  
***He bled as the Lamb***  
***He carries my healing in His hands***  
***Jesus***

2 There is a name I call in times of trouble  
 There is a song that comforts in the night  
 There is a voice that calms the storm that rages  
 He is Jesus Jesus

***Bridge***

Messiah  
 My Savior  
 There is power in Your name  
 You're my rock and my Redeemer  
 There is power in Your name  
 In Your name

***Chorus 2***

***You walk on the waters***  
***You speak to the sea***  
***You stand in the fire beside me***  
***You roar like a lion***  
***You bled as the Lamb***  
***You carry my healing in Your hands***  
***God***

***Ending***

Jesus  
 There is no one like You  
 Jesus  
 There is no one like you

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.**

Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: Sandra... Merle.....  
 Mary..... Irene ..... Helen.....Tony and Mary Jean..... Bill..... Geraldine....  
 Florence..... Joan..... Shirley and Cyril..... Lisa..... Marijke..... Chrissie, Cathy,  
 and the family..... Diane..... Janelle..... Rosemary..... Roald..... Sandy..... Luci

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

**Hear and have mercy**

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life

**Hear and have mercy.**

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Give rest to the weary and hold the dying in your loving arms. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation of Easter joy. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Uphold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease. We pray to you, O God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, Lamb of God,

**Hear and have mercy.**

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

**Hear and have mercy**

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

**Hear and have mercy**

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Almighty God,  
 whose Son was revealed in majesty  
 before he suffered death upon the cross,  
 give us faith to perceive his glory,  
 that being strengthened by his grace  
 we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
 who lives 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 561 Lord, Your Word Shall Guide Us

1 Lord, you word shall guide us  
and with truth provide us:  
teach us to receive it  
and with joy believe it.

2 When our foes are near us,  
then your word shall cheer us-  
word of consolation,  
message of salvation.

3 When the storms distress us  
and dark clouds oppress us,  
then your word protects us  
and its light directs us.

4 Who can tell the pleasure,  
who recount the treasure  
by your word imparted  
to the simple hearted?

5 Word of mercy, giving  
courage to the living;  
word of life, supplying  
comfort to the dying.

6 O that we, discerning  
its most holy learning,  
Lord, may love and fear you-  
evermore be near you!

### The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**