

# Morning Prayer

July 23, 2025

St. Mary Magdalene (July 22<sup>nd</sup>)

## Opening Sentence

*Officiant* Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19: 14*

## The Invitatory and Psalter

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.

*People* ***And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.***

*Officiant and People* ***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.***

*Officiant* The Lord is glorious in his saints:  
***Come let us adore him.***

## Jubilate

*Psalm 100*

**Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;  
serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.**

**Know this: The Lord himself is God;  
he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

**Enter his gates with thanksgiving;  
go into his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.**

**For the Lord is good;  
his mercy is everlasting;  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

## The Psalm Appointed *(appointed for the day)*

*Psalm 42: 1-7*

**As the deer longs for the water-brooks,  
so longs my soul for you, O God.**

**My soul is a thirst for God, a thirst for the living God;  
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?**

**My tears have been my food day and night,  
while all day long they say to me,  
"Where now is your God?"**

**I pour out my soul when I think on these things:  
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,  
With the voice of praise and thanksgiving,  
among those who keep holy-day.  
Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul?  
and why are you so disquieted within me?  
Put your trust in God;  
for I will yet give thanks to him,  
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.  
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 the Paul's 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter to the Corinthians**

*2 Corinthians 5: 14-18*

The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

#### **Canticle 9**

#### **The First Song of Isaiah**

*Ecce, Deus*

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
***I will trust in him and not be afraid.***  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
***and he will be my Savior.***  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
***from the springs of salvation.***  
And on that day you shall say,  
***Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;***  
Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
***see that they remember that his Name is exalted.***

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,  
***and this is known in all the world.***

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
***for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.***

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 Gospel

*Gospeller*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

*John 20: 11-18*

*People*

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

Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Reflection

Mary of Magdala near Capernaum was one of several women who followed Jesus and ministered to him in Galilee. The Gospel according to Luke records that Jesus “went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out ... ” (Luke 8:1–2). The Gospels tell us that Mary was healed by Jesus, followed him, and was one of those who stood near his cross at Calvary.

It is clear that Mary Magdalene’s life was radically changed by Jesus’ healing. Her ministry of service and steadfast companionship, even as a witness to the crucifixion, has, through the centuries, been an example of the faithful ministry of women to Christ. All four Gospels name Mary as one of the women who went to the tomb to mourn and to care for Jesus’ body. Her weeping for the loss of her Lord strikes a common chord with the grief of all others over the death of loved ones. Jesus’ tender response to her grief—meeting her in the garden, revealing

himself to her by calling her name—makes her the first witness to the risen Lord. She is given the command, “Go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God” (John 20:17). As the first messenger of the resurrection, she tells the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” (John 20:18).

In the tradition of the Eastern Church, Mary is regarded as the equal of an apostle; and she is held in veneration as the patron saint of the great cluster of monasteries on Mount Athos.

## **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**

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*        ***And also with you.***

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

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

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.***

### **The Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

### **Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving**

*Officiant* 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, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

### **Spiritual Communion**

Let us pray together a prayer for Spiritual Communion:

**Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We are grateful to know there are many ways to experience your presence, but in whatever way we do, we know you come into our hearts, minds and souls. Unite my heart with those of my family of faith and make us all one with you. May this spiritual communion strengthen my faith and grant me confidence in your loving care now and forever. Amen.**

## The General Thanksgiving

*Officiant* 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 ourselves 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.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant* 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.**

## Bible Study

### Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.  
Give us each day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.  
And do not bring us to the time of trial."

And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I

have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

### **Reflection on Luke 11: 1-13**

This passage in Luke's Gospel begins a long section about discipleship, so it is fitting that he begins by talking about prayer. The Lord's Prayer serves as a template for structuring prayer (it is shorter than Matthew's version): adoration, supplication, and confession, as well as moral implications. Luke impresses the attitude and ethos of prayer: it should be continuous. As Paul said, we "pray without ceasing."

Jesus' disciples speak for us when they ask Jesus to teach them to pray. Such a request is one that we might make today! After all, as St. Thomas Aquinas says, "God is the first mover of all things," so we must rely on the Holy Spirit to move us first, that we might participate in prayer. But the Lord has given us the words to pray that we might not be completely lost. Not only has he given us the Lord's Prayer, but he has also given us all of Scripture, most notably the Psalms. And these prayers are both temporal and spiritual. The Lord himself has taught us to pray for both our physical needs and our spiritual needs.

- Can you recall a time you felt unable to pray?
- Do you have a memory of a prayer that was answered? Do you have a memory of a prayer that you felt was unanswered? How did you respond in those cases?