

# Morning Prayer

Hugh, and Robert Grosseteste

*Bishops of Lincoln, 1200, 1253*

**November 17, 2021**

## 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. Alleluia.***

*Officiant* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:  
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 61*

**Hear my cry, O God;  
listen to my prayer.**

**From the end of the earth I call to you,  
when my heart is faint.**

Lead me to the rock  
that is higher than I;  
for you are my refuge,  
a strong tower against the enemy.  
Let me abide in your tent forever,  
find refuge under the shelter of your wings.  
For you, O God, have heard my vows;  
you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.  
Prolong the life of the king;  
may his years endure to all generations!  
May he be enthroned forever before God;  
appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over him!  
So I will always sing praises to your name,  
as I pay my vows day after day.  
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 Prophet Michah**

*Micah 4: 1-4*

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house  
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,  
and shall be raised up above the hills.  
Peoples shall stream to it, and many nations shall come and say:  
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob;  
that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."  
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.  
He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away;  
they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;  
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more;  
but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,  
and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

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 Luke.

Luke 12:35–44

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

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.” But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Peter said, “Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?” And the Lord said, “Who then is the faithful and prudent manager whom his master will put in charge of his slaves, to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master will find at work when he arrives. Truly I tell you, he will put that one in charge of all his possessions.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Reflection

Hugh was born into a noble family at Avalon in Burgundy (France). He became a canon regular at Villard-Benoit near Grenoble. About 1160 he joined the Carthusians, the strictest contemplative religious order, becoming the procurator of their major house, the Grande Chartreuse. With reluctance, he accepted the invitation of King Henry II to become prior of a new foundation of Carthusians in England at Witham, Somerset. With even greater hesitation, Hugh accepted the King's appointment to the See of Lincoln in 1186. He died in London, November 16, 1200, and is buried in Lincoln Cathedral, of which he laid the foundation.

As a bishop, Hugh continued to live as much as possible under the strict discipline of his order. His humility and tact, his total lack of self-regard, and his cheerful disposition made it difficult to oppose him. His people loved him for his unrelenting care of the poor and oppressed. Steadfastly independent of secular influences, he was never afraid to reprove his king for unjust treatment of the people. Hugh refused to raise money for King Richard's foreign wars. Yet Richard said of him, "If all bishops were like my Lord of Lincoln, not a prince among us could lift his head against them."

Robert Grosseteste was a distinguished scholar of law, medicine, languages, sciences, and theology, having risen to prominence from humble beginnings. He was a commentator and translator of Aristotle, but sought to refute many of Aristotle's ideas in favor of those of Augustine. Because of Grosseteste's influence, Oxford began to give greater weight to the study of science, particularly geometry, physics, and mathematics. Roger Bacon, an important progenitor of scientific method, was a pupil of Grosseteste, and John Wycliffe was strongly influenced by him as well.

He became Bishop of Lincoln in 1235. He is remembered for the diligence with which he visited the clergy and people of his diocese, teaching, preaching, and celebrating the sacraments, thus refusing to be isolated from the lives of those under his care. He was a steadfast defender of diocesan prerogatives whether against the papacy or the state.

## The Apostles' Creed

*Officiant and People*

***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

*Officiant* Holy God, our greatest treasure, you blessed Hugh and Robert, Bishops of Lincoln, with wise and cheerful boldness for the proclamation of your Word to rich and poor alike: Grant that all who minister in your Name may serve with diligence, discipline and humility, fearing nothing but the loss of you and drawing all to you through Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you in the communion of the Holy Spirit, 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. **Amen.**

## **Spiritual Communion**

Let us pray together a prayer for Spiritual Communion:

***Blessed Jesus, I believe that we are fed with the spiritual food of your Body and Blood. Since I cannot receive You physically today, I now desire to receive you spiritually into my soul. Unite my heart with those of my community who cannot gather in person to celebrate the great meal of thanksgiving 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: John 18: 33-37

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

## Reflection on John 18: 33-37

This Sunday, we begin the last week of our current liturgical year. Next Sunday the Advent season and a new liturgical year will begin. The Gospel chosen for this feast of Christ the King is a very solemn reading. It is a reading from the Passion of Jesus Christ.

Jesus had been arrested and was brought before Pilate. The first questions Pilate asked Jesus: "Are you the King of the Jews? If so, what have you done?" The dialogue between Pilate and Jesus continues from there. The reality is: Jesus was a king. However, Jesus was not a typical king. Jesus was "a servant king." He came not to be served but to serve. Jesus did not come to earth seeking power and influence. Rather he preached God's word, healed the sick and reached out to the poor, the lame and the outcasts of society.

How am I following in Jesus' footsteps?

How do I reach out to the poor, the lame or the individuals who are on the margins of society?

Do I strive to be a servant to the people in my life?

Do I work to create peace and harmony?

Perhaps the most challenging words in this Gospel are the last words of this reading:

"Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

How do I strive to listen to Jesus' voice?

Do I allow Jesus' voice to be drowned out by busyness, despair, worry or (you fill in the blank)?

Today make time to sit down, quiet down and listen for Jesus' voice! He will speak to you! The question for us is: Will we be listening?