

In today's first reading, we hear God tell Isaiah, "my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." We are gathered here today in a house of prayer, and so we welcome all people who have come here today to join together to pray to God in praise, in petition, and in thanksgiving. Let us lift up our voices in prayer to our God.

As we gather let us begin our service by professing what we believe.

Profession of Faith p. 110

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (bow as we say) and by the Holy Spirit he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Introductory Rite:

Greeting:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God forever. **Blessed be God forever.**

Penitential Rite: p. 8

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen**

Opening Prayer:

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word:

First Reading p. 36

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7

Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, loving the name of the LORD, and becoming his servants—all who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to

my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Responsorial Song

Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

R/. O God, let all the nations praise you!

R/. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation. **R/.**

May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide. **R/.**

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us and may all the ends of the earth fear him! **R/.**

Second Reading p. 38

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel p. 38

Matthew 15: 21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection on the Word:

- Last month we heard the parable of the sower. Because the sower threw seed around with no regard to where it fell, much of it failed to produce fruit. As Jesus revealed later, he is the sower and the seed is the good news of the

kingdom. Today we see a portrayal of Peter that is not so flattering, but remember that when Jesus called him in the first days of his mission, Peter immediately dropped his nets and followed. Peter is like the seed that fell on rocky ground. Recall Jesus said, “Some fell on rocky ground . . . It sprang up at once . . . [but] withered for lack of roots” (Matthew 13:5–6). On rocky ground, on rocky waters, Peter’s faith at this point is not well-anchored. But eventually the extravagance of the sower will be rewarded. Not this night, not even on that later night before the cock crowed, but in the end Peter’s faith produces fruit, many hundredfold.

- Peter is honestly trying to show faith. In daring Jesus to call him out of the boat and onto the water, he is not trying to prove Jesus wrong as some Pharisees consistently tried to do. He truly believes in Jesus’ power. But he becomes frightened. On the night he denied Jesus three times, he again became frightened. Whether of drowning or of being crucified, Peter’s fears are obstacles to his faith. Only after his faith is strengthened by Jesus’ victory over death and the gift of the Holy Spirit does Peter publicly testify immediately and courageously to his faith in the Son of God. His testimony of the need for repentance and forgiveness is especially apt.

- Our lives can be like a boat tossed about by the waves, leaving us fearful and exhausted. But recall Jesus’ final words to those he loved: “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). Can we see Jesus coming to us on the rough seas, reassuring us and staying with us? Can we trust in the One who overcame death itself to guide us through the rough waters of our life?

Question of the Week

Who can I accompany on their journey through stormy waters? How can I reassure them and assist them?

Prayer of the Faithful:

We heard Jesus tell the woman of great faith, “Let it be done for you as you wish.” With great faith, let us offer our needs and the needs of our sisters and brothers to the Lord.

- For the Church, that we may always reach out to those who have been slighted, alienated, or rejected, so that all may feel welcome in the Church we call home, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For peace among all nations and peoples, that we may abandon weapons of war and embrace nonviolence, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all those who have journeyed here from foreign lands and all those who are often still made to feel like foreigners, that they may find welcome and acceptance, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- That we may value human life at every stage and in every condition, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For those who suffer from chronic illness, and for their caregivers and loved ones, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For what else should we pray?... Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**
- For all the prayers that we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our intentions spoken and unspoken, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Loving God, you offer your love and mercy to all your children. As we grow in faith in you, may we realize your call to universal love and mercy, even as we seek yours to fulfill these prayers we make, through Christ our Risen Lord.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer: p. 142

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us.

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.

Rite of Peace:

The sign of peace outwardly expresses a deep spiritual reality; through this sign we acknowledge Christ's presence in each other and share the peace we have received from Him. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Communion:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The body of Christ. **Amen.**


Prayer after Communion:

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Concluding Rite:

Final Blessing:

May the Lord bless us,  protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ! **Thanks be to God.**