

St Francis Episcopal Church San Jose, CA  
Morning Prayer, Thursday, November 25, 2021  
Thanksgiving Day

---

When 2 people are reading: READER 1: Plain Text    *Reader 2: Italics*    **Both: Bold**  
**If there are 2 lessons, a reading and subsequent canticle may be omitted.**

**You are invited to begin the service by lighting a candle.**

---

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to  
your holy hill and to your dwelling. Psalm 43:3

O Lord, open our lips  
*and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

**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.**

**Venite**    *Psalm 95:1-7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**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.**

*A reading from the Book of Joel:*

*Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.*

*The word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God**

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,\*  
then were we like those who dream.

*Then was our mouth filled with laughter,\*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.*

Then they said among the nations,\*  
“The Lord has done great things for them.”

*The Lord has done great things for us,\*  
and we are glad indeed.*

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,\*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears,\*  
will reap with songs of joy.

*Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,\**

*will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.*

**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.**

*A reading from the first Letter of Timothy:*

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For*

*there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all*

*-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.*

*The Word of the Lord.*

***Thanks be to God.***

**There was a great multitude that no one could count,  
They were wearing white robes  
and were holding palm branches in their hands.  
And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God,  
who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.  
Praise and glory and wisdom  
and thanks and honor and power and strength  
be to our God for ever and ever."They are before the throne of God  
and serve him day and night in his temple;  
and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they  
hunger;  
never again will they thirst.  
The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat.  
For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd;  
he will lead them to springs of living water.  
And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."** *Revelation 7:9-10, 12, 15-17*

**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 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

The Lord be with you.  
*And also with you.*  
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.**

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;

*Govern and uphold them, now and always.*  
Day by day we bless you;  
*We praise your Name for ever.*  
Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
*Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*  
Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
*For we put our trust in you.*  
In you, Lord, is our hope;  
*And we shall never hope in vain.*  
*Amen.*

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Holy Being, who called all us into life,  
from the first Adam and Eve  
to the babies born around the world this morning,  
you have labored and we have been born;  
holy is your name in all the earth.  
We thank you this day for all who have shown us your way.

Abraham and Sarah heard your call and ventured new places, even when they were old.  
*We listen for your call today.*

Miriam and Moses danced and led your people from suffering toward a new promise.  
*We await a vision of your burning fire today.*

Deborah fought, Samuel prayed and they led in different ways.  
*We are preparing to lead this day.*

David and Bathsheba sinned and were forgiven.  
*We confess our sin and long for your grace today.*

Amos spoke and Esther stood tall for the sake of justice.  
*We open ourselves to your strength today.*

Mother Mary and Brother Jesus accepted your call.  
*We attend to your word this day.*

Peter and Paul, Magdalene and Lydia, and saints through the ages picked up their cross.

*We pray that we might faithfully follow today.*

Holy Being, who called us to into life through the saints in our lives, be born anew to us, that we might serve all your saints; the hungry and thirsty, the sick and imprisoned, the naked and forgotten  
*to honor to your holy name in all the earth.*<sup>1</sup>

Living God, in whom there is no shadow or change,  
we thank you for the gift of life eternal,  
and for all those who, having served you well,  
now rest from their labours. We thank you for all the saints remembered and forgotten, for those dear souls most precious to us.  
Today we give thanks for those who during the last twelve months  
have died and entered into glory.

*(Names may be mentioned here....)*

*We bless you for their life and love, and rejoice for them "all is well, and all manner of things will be well."*

God of Jesus and our God,  
mindful of all those choice souls who have gone on ahead of us,  
teach us, and each twenty-first century disciple of every race and place,  
to follow their example to the best of our ability:

- to feed the poor in body or spirit,
- to support and comfort the mourners and the repentant,
- to encourage the meek and stand with them in crises,
- to affirm those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
- to cherish and learn from the merciful,
- to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers.

Let us clearly recognise what it means to be called the children of God, and to know we are to be your saints neither by our own inclination nor in our own strength but simply by the call and the healing holiness of Christ Jesus our Saviour.  
*Amen!*<sup>2</sup>

And may the blessing of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit surround us and sustain us in the coming days. **Amen**

---

<sup>1</sup>

<sup>2</sup>