

Let us pray with one voice the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, who on this first Holy Saturday remained hidden and in mourning.

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and glory forever. Amen.

THE LAMENTATIONS

THE BLESSING

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

Amen.

Liturgy of Morning Prayer

Saturday, March 31, 2018

GATHERING

God, come to my assistance.

Lord, make haste to help me.

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.

PSALM 90

**Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.**

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust,
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'

For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

**Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;
in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

For we are consumed by your anger;
by your wrath we are overwhelmed.
You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

**Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.**

For all our days pass away under your wrath;
our years come to an end like a sigh.
The days of our life are seventy years,
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span is only toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

Who considers the power of your anger?
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due to you.
So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

Turn, O Lord! How long?
Have compassion on your servants!
Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.
Let your work be manifest to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.
Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,

and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!

**Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Our Redeemer suffered and was buried for us in order to rise again. With sincere love we adore him, and aware of our needs we cry out:

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ our Savior, your sorrowing Mother stood by you at your death and burial, **in our sorrows may we share your suffering.**

Christ our Lord, like the seed buried in the ground, you brought forth for us the harvest of grace, **may we die to sin and live for God.**

Christ, the Good Shepherd, in death you lay hidden from the world. **Teach us to love a life hidden with you in the Father.**

Christ, the new Adam, you entered the kingdom of death to release all the just since the beginning of the world, **may all who lie dead in sin hear your voice and rise to life.**

Christ, Son of the living God, through baptism we were buried with you, **risen also with you in baptism, may we walk in newness of life. Lord, have mercy on us.**

God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

1. From Pilate Joseph asked for Your Body. He wraps it in a clean linen shroud and with spices anoints it for burial and he lays it in his new tomb. Then at early dawn the women came with their ointments, and they cried, "Show us the Resurrection, O Savior, as You had foretold, O Christ."
2. When You descended unto death, O Lord who yourself are immortal Life, then did You mortify Hades by the lightning flash of Your Divinity. Also when You raised the dead from the netherworld, all the Powers of the heavens were crying out: O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory be to You.
3. You were murdered, O Word, but not sundered from the flesh in which You shared. For even if Your temple was destroyed at the time of Your Passion, nevertheless, one was the hypostasis of Your human flesh and of Your Godhead. For in both natures, You are one Son, the Word of God, as You are truly God and man.
4. Adam's failure resulted in death for humanity but not for God. For though the human nature of Your flesh had suffered at the Passion, yet Your divinity remained impassible. By Your resurrection, You transformed Your corruptible body to incorruption, and made it a source of life incorruptible.

5. Hades reigned over the human race, but would not do so forever. For after You were buried, You broke the bolts and bars of death asunder, O mighty Master, with Your hand that causes life. You proclaimed the sure and true redemption to those who lay asleep there from all ages, O Savior, and You became the firstborn of the dead.
6. Prophet Jonah was in the belly of the whale detained, but not retained. For, in that he prefigured You, the One who suffered and was buried, he sprang forth from the beast as from a bridal room, and he cried out to the guard of soldiers, "You, who are keeping watch and follow vanity and lies, have forsaken the mercy that was meant for you."
7. The Angel stood by the tomb, and to the women bearing spices he cried aloud: "Myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption."
8. He, who with a sea-wave had buried the tyrant pursuer long ago, was buried beneath the earth by children of those then delivered. Now, as once the maidens did, let us sing to the Lord, "For He is greatly glorified."
9. When creation beheld You, who without restraint suspended all the earth on the waters, now suspended on a cross on Golgotha, it was constrained by great astonishment, and cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."
10. Glory to You, our God. Glory to You.

11. Of old by many visions, You revealed the symbols of Your burial. But what You once kept secret, O Master, now, as God and man, You clearly showed to those in Hades, who cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."
12. Savior, when You extended Your hands, You united things that had been divided. By Your confinement in the shroud and the sepulcher, You set free those who were fettered. To You they cry aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."
13. You, uncontainable Master, were confined by the tomb and seals, of Your own will. By Your actions as God, O Friend of humanity, You made Your power known to all, who cry aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."
14. When creation beheld You, who without restraint suspended all the earth on the waters, now suspended on a cross on Golgotha, it was constrained by great astonishment, and cried aloud, "No one is holy, but You, O Lord."
15. The Angel stood by the tomb, and to the women bearing spices he cried aloud: "Myrrh is fitting for the dead, but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption."

For you are our God, and to you we give glory, to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.