THE DAILY OFFICE

Morning Prayer

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Gracious and loving God we are reminded through the lessons and words of your son Jesus Christ that we are called to share our love with others knowing that they are your beloved children. Amen.

Psalm 95:1-7

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
    let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
    let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the LORD is a great God,
    and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
    the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
    and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
    let us 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.

Glory to the Father and the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now: and shall be forever. Amen. Please observe a moment of silence.

Psalm 90:2

Before the mountains were born, and before you created the earth and the world, you are God.
You have always been, and you will always be.

Compassion Prayer by J. Bradley Wigger, adapted

O God of Moses, let your favor rest upon us, and bless the world for a thousand years and a million more.
How long will evil thrive and hatred flourish?
How long does it take for compassion to rule humanity’s heart.
Sweep sin away like a bad dream we pray, and let joy grow and never fade away.
May the morning of your constant love come quickly.
May the day soon break, filled with the glad faces of thriving babies and flourishing children.
A Reading from Matthew 22:36-40

The Pharisee asked, “Teacher, which command in the law is the most important?” Jesus answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind.’ This is the first and most important command. And the second command is like the first: ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’ All the law and the writings of the prophets depend on these two commands.”

Canticle 20

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only son of God, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of God; receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God. Amen

Prayers and Intercessions

We thank you, Jesus, for the people who mother and father us.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We give thanks for all the people in our families who help take care of us.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for teaching us how to love our neighbors as ourselves.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for music that inspires us to sing and dance.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for the patience of our caregivers to listen.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for those who help us make sense of the world with words.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for those who pray with us.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We thank you, Jesus, for healthy food to help us grow strong.
We thank you for the gift of love.

We especially thank you, Jesus, for the gift of love we give to others. We ask you to bless all children on the earth with gifts that nurture them so that they can thrive as children of God. Amen.

The Creed

We believe in God the Father.
We believe in Christ the Son.
We believe in the Holy Spirit.
We are the Church and we stand as one.
The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
  hallowed be your Name,
  your kingdom come,
  your will be done,
    on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
  as we forgive those
    who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
  and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
  and the glory are yours,
    now and for ever. Amen.

Concluding Collect
Holy and ever living God,
By your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service
and live this day in love to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.