

Bringing our concerns

Holy God,
we offer to you
our prayers for the world:

for those who long for good news
and for those
who no longer believe
that good news is possible ...

for those who yearn
to break out of their prisons,
and those who do not realise
the prisons that hold them ...

for those who seek
for truth and wisdom
and those who have
given up the search ...

for those who labour for justice
and those who are
tired of the struggle ...

for those who need to know
God loves them
and those who are hurt
by the Church's failure to love ...

Free Prayer

Holy God,
anoint us with your Spirit
that we might by word
and deed
proclaim your good news
in the name of Christ,
who taught us when we pray to say
...

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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

Going to love and serve

God of wind and fire,
as your Spirit was poured out
upon the first disciples,
by your love, rest upon us
as upon all your Church.

***Enlarge our dreams,
and enthuse our minds,
inspire our faith
and empower our resolve,
that growing
in the likeness of Christ,
we may be unafraid to live this day
to your praise and glory.***

Optional: + In the name
of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit

NRSV: 'New Revised Standard Version Bible:
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National Council of the Churches of Christ in
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Daily Office: Living Spirit

Monday Morning & Pentecost

Becoming present to God

*Through a sign of attentiveness
like lighting a candle or*

+ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit

Holy God,
whose power is known
through wind, fire,
and still small voice,
***be present with us now,
that as we pray,
our hearts
may burn within us.***

or

Holy God,
as this candle burns,
***may our hearts burn
with your love.***
As this flame trembles,
***may we tremble
in the presence of your holiness.***
As this light
reaches upwards,
***may our praise
reach upwards by the power
of your Spirit.***

Celebrating the presence of God

Living Spirit,
present in creation,
present in Christ,
present with us now,
***we worship you.
We greet you.***

For each place
that has made us wonder,
every moment
that time has stood still,
we praise you.

For each word
that has spoken truth,
every deed
that has made peace,
we praise you.

For each life
that has touched ours,
every chance
to show your love,
we praise you.

***Living Spirit,
present in creation,
present in Christ,
present with us now
we worship you.
We greet you.***

*A pause to name any specific thanks
or praise*

Acknowledging our humanity

Lord Jesus,
you say to your disciples,
'Peace be with you',
and you breathe
your Holy Spirit upon us.

When we find no peace
within ourselves ...
Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy

When we fail to build
the unity of your Church ...
Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy

When we are complicit
in the violence of the world...
Lord have mercy,
Christ have mercy

Risen Lord,
in your forgiving love,
show us again your wounds,
and remind us of the cost
of true discipleship,
that with all God's people
we may commit ourselves
with body, mind and spirit,
to struggle for the peace
you died to bring.

Listening for the Word of God

From *The Common Lectionary*

Canticle – Optional

Song of God's Children

The law of the Spirit of life
in Christ Jesus
has set you free
from the law of
sin and of death.

**For all who are led
by the Spirit of God
are children of God.**

For you did not receive
a spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear,
but you have received
a spirit of adoption.

When we cry, 'Abba! Father!'
it is that very Spirit
bearing witness
with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God
and joint heirs with Christ—
if, in fact, we suffer with him
so that we may also
be glorified with him.
I consider that the sufferings
of this present time
are not worth comparing
with the glory
about to be revealed to us.

For the creation waits
with eager longing
for the revealing
of the children of God;
for the creation
was subjected to futility,
not of its own will
but by the will
of the one who subjected it,
in hope that
the creation itself
will be set free
from its bondage to decay
and will obtain the freedom
of the glory of the children of God.
Romans 8.2, 14-21 (NRSV)

or

Mary's Song | Magnificat

My soul proclaims
the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices
in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour
on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations
will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done
great things for me
and holy is his name.
He has mercy
on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered
the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty
from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry
with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid
of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,
The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children
for ever. *Luke 1.46-55 (NRSV)*

Reflecting on our roots

Living God, enable us this day
to be pilgrims and companions:
committed to the way of Christ,
faithful to the call of Christ,
discerning the mind of Christ,
offering the welcome of Christ,
growing in the likeness of Christ,
engaging in the mission of Christ,
in the world that belongs to Christ.