

Morning Prayer

Welcome & Pastoral Introduction

OPENING SENTENCE

OFFICIANT From the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

MALACHI 1:11

CONFESSION OF SIN

The people kneel.

OFFICIANT

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

ALL

*Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;*

*that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.*

OFFICIANT

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The people stand.

INVITATORY

OFFICIANT O Lord, open our lips;

PEOPLE *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

OFFICIANT O God, make speed to save us;

PEOPLE *O Lord, make haste to help us.*

OFFICIANT Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

PEOPLE *As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.
Amen.*

OFFICIANT Praise the Lord.

PEOPLE *The Lord's Name be praised.*

Song of Worship

Come Thou Fount

Robert Robinson

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,

Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood;
How his kindness yet pursues me
Mortal tongue can never tell,
Clothed in flesh, till death shall loose me
I cannot proclaim it well.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for thy courts above.

THE PSALMS APPOINTED

LECTOR Let us pray **Psalm 139** responsively by whole verse.

- 1 LORD, you have searched me out and known me; *
 you know my sitting down and my rising up;
 you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 *You trace my journeys and my resting places *
 and are acquainted with all my ways.*
- 3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, *
 but you, O LORD, know it altogether.
- 4 *You press upon me behind and before *
 and lay your hand upon me.*

- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; *
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
- 6 *Where can I go then from your Spirit? *
where can I flee from your presence?*
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; *
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 *If I take the wings of the morning *
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,*
- 9 Even there your hand will lead me *
and your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 *If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, *
and the light around me turn to night,"*
- 11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; *
darkness and light to you are both alike.
- 12 *For you yourself created my inmost parts; *
you knit me together in my mother's womb.*
- 13 I will thank you because I am marvelously made; *
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.
- 14 *My body was not hidden from you, *
while I was being made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.*
- 15 Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;
all of them were written in your book; *
they were fashioned day by day,
when as yet there was none of them.
- 16 *How deep I find your thoughts, O God! *
how great is the sum of them!*
- 17 If I were to count them, they would be more in number
than the sand; *
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

ALL

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

THE LESSONS

John 3:1–22

^{3:1} Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

²² After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptized.

LECTOR	The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE	<i>Thanks be to God.</i>

THE HOMILY

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The people stand.

OFFICIANT AND PEOPLE

*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 people kneel or stand.

OFFICIANT The Lord is here.

PEOPLE *And his Spirit is with us.*

OFFICIANT Let us pray.

ALL *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.*

LEADER Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

ALL

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the Cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

The people sit.

The General Thanksgiving

Ryan Flanigan

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
Here we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks,
For you are good and full of loving-kindness,
Pouring out your love to us and all whom you have made.
We bless you, Lord,
For our creation, preservation, and the blessings of this life;
But most of all for your immeasurable love,
The redemption of the world by Jesus Christ;
For the means of grace, and the hope of glory.

And give us such awareness of your mercies,
That with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
Not only with our lips, but in our whole lives,
Giving up our selves to serve you, walking in your ways,
In holiness and righteousness all of our days;
And now through Jesus Christ our Lord,
To whom, with you and with the Holy Spirit raise
All the honor and the praise forevermore. Amen. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

We invite you to give online at christchurchofaustin.org/give. If your giving comes in by check, we are still receiving mail.

THE DISMISSAL

OFFICIANT Let us bless the Lord.

PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

OFFICIANT May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Romans 15:13

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