

**A Service of Morning Prayer
Wednesday, September 16, 2026**



Cursing the fig tree. Byzantine style icon of Jesus as in Mark 11:

Lord, open our lips,

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

CP 60 I Come with Joy

1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.

5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

Gathering: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

And also with you.

May his grace and peace be with you.
May he fill our hearts with joy.

Almighty God,
**To you all hearts are open,
 All desires known,
 And from you no secrets are hidden.
 Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
 By the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
 That we may perfectly love you,
 And worthily magnify your holy name.
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion: Holy God,
 Holy and mighty,
 Holy and immortal one,
 Have mercy on us. (3x)

Psalm 77 *Refrain: Incline your ear, O Lord, and save us.*

- ¹ I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me.
- ² In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.
- ³ I think of God, and I moan; I meditate, and my spirit faints.
- ⁴ You keep my eyelids from closing; I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
- ⁵ I consider the days of old, and remember the years of long ago.
- ⁶ I commune with my heart in the night; I meditate and search my spirit:
- ⁷ 'Will the Lord spurn for ever, and never again be favourable?
- ⁸ Has his steadfast love ceased for ever? Are his promises at an end for all time?
- ⁹ Has God forgotten to be gracious? Has he in anger shut up his compassion?'
- ¹⁰ And I say, 'It is my grief that the right hand of the Most High has changed.'
- ¹¹ I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.
- ¹² I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.
- ¹³ Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?
- ¹⁴ You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples.
- ¹⁵ With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.
- ¹⁶ When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; the very deep trembled.
- ¹⁷ The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; your arrows flashed on every side.
- ¹⁸ The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.
- ¹⁹ Your way was through the sea, your path, through the mighty waters; yet your footprints were unseen.
- ²⁰ You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 11:20-25**The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree**

²⁰ In the morning as they passed by, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.

²¹ Then Peter remembered and said to him, 'Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered.'

²² Jesus answered them, 'Have faith in God.

²³ Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, "Be taken up and thrown into the sea", and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you.

²⁴ So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

²⁵ 'Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone; so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.'

CP 534 Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

1 Here, O Lord, your servants gather,
hand we link with hand;
looking toward our Savior's cross,
joined in love we stand.
As we seek the realm of God,
we unite to pray:
Jesus, Savior, guide our steps
for you are the way.

2 Many are the tongues we speak,
scattered are the lands;
yet our hearts are one in God,
one in love's demands.
Even in darkness hope appears,
calling age and youth;
Jesus, Teacher, dwell with us,
for you are the truth.

3 Nature's secrets open wide,
changes never cease;
where, O where, can weary souls
find the source of peace?
Unto all those sore distressed,
torn by endless strife,
Jesus, Healer, bring your balm,
for you are the life.

4 Grant, O God, an age renewed,
filled with deathless love;
help us as we work and pray.
Send us from above
truth and courage, faith and power
needed in our strife:
Jesus, Master, be our way,
be our truth our life.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 443594 How Beautiful

1 How beautiful the hands that served
 The wine and the bread and the sons of the
 earth
 How beautiful the feet that walked
 The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross

Chorus

***How beautiful how beautiful
 How beautiful is the body of Christ***

2 How beautiful the heart that bled
 That took all my sin and bore it instead
 How beautiful the tender eyes
 That chose to forgive and never despise

Bridge

And as He laid down His life
 We offer this sacrifice
 That we will live just as He died
 Willing to pay the price
 Willing to pay the price

3 How beautiful the radiant Bride
 Who waits for her Groom with His light in her
 eyes
 How beautiful when humble hearts give
 The fruit of pure lives so that others may live

4 How beautiful the feet that bring
 The sound of good news and the love of the
 King
 How beautiful the hands that serve
 The wine and the bread and the sons of the
 earth

Affirmation of Faith (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.**

Healing Litany:

Let us name before God those for whom we offer our prayers: Merle..... Mary..... Irene Tony and Mary Jean..... Florence..... Lisa and Joe..... Marijke..... Diane..... Janelle..... Sandy..... Evelyn..... Sarah..... Terry..... Ken..... Monica..... Julie..... Lucas..... Helen..... Cody..... Judy..... Ruth..... Jody and Michael..... David L..... Kathy..... Joy..... Pauline.....Jorges and Janine and little Emilio Michael S..... Larry..... Christena..... Elsie..... Louise B.....Irvin and Margaret..... Ashley..... Emily..... Zaldy..... Louise A..... Sandra A..... Justine..... Deardre..... June..... and Fran.

Let us offer our prayers for God's healing, saying, Hear and have mercy.

Hear and have mercy

Blessed Jesus, your Holy name is medicine for healing and a promise of eternal life

Hear and have mercy

Grant us your grace to heal those who are sick. We pray to you, O God,

Befriend all who are anxious, lonely, despondent, or afraid. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Restore those with mental illness to clarity of mind and hopefulness of heart. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Give rest to the weary and hold the dying in your loving arms. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Help us to prepare for death with confident expectation of Easter joy. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Give your wisdom and compassion to health care workers, that they may minister to the sick and dying with knowledge, skill, and kindness. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Uphold those who keep watch over the sick. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy.

Guide those who search for the causes and cures of sickness and disease. We pray to you, O God,

Hear and have mercy

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Hear and have mercy.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

Hear and have mercy

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

Hear and have mercy

Compassionate God, you so loved the world that you sent us Jesus to bear our infirmities and afflictions. Through acts of healing, he revealed you as the true source of health and salvation. For the sake of your Christ who suffered and died for us, conquered death, and now reigns with you in glory, hear the cry of your people. Have mercy on us, make us whole, and bring us at last into the fulness of your eternal life. Amen

Collect

Almighty God,
you call your Church to witness
that in Christ we are reconciled to you.
Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may turn to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

CP 423 How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
 consider all the works thy hand hath made,
 I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
 thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:

***The sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
 how great thou art, how great thou art!
 Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee;
 how great thou art, how great thou art!***

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
 I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
 when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
 and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ***Refrain***

3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
 that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
 he bled and died to take away my sin. ***Refrain***

4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
 and claim his own, what joy shall fill my heart!
 Then I shall bow in humble adoration
 and there proclaim, "My God how great thou art."

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord, giving thanks for his living word.
Thanks be to God.

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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.