

**A Service of Morning Prayer
Wednesday, September 30, 2026**



Christ Healing the Paralysed Man c. 1619
by Anthony van Dyck (1599-1641)

Later Georgian Pictures in the Collection of Her Majesty the Queen, London, Royal Collection Trust

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 425 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

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 42 *Refrain: Remember, O Lord, your faithfulness and love.*

¹ As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?

³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

⁴ These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God, with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, a multitude keeping festival.

⁵ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help

⁶ and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

⁷ Deep calls to deep at the thunder of your cataracts; all your waves and your billows have gone over me.

⁸ By day the Lord commands his steadfast love, and at night his song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life.

⁹ I say to God, my rock, 'Why have you forgotten me? Why must I walk about mournfully because the enemy oppresses me?'

¹⁰ As with a deadly wound in my body, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

¹¹ Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him my help and my God.

The Gospel:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Matthew 9:2-8**Jesus Heals a Paralytic**

² And just then some people were carrying a paralysed man lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.'

³ Then some of the scribes said to themselves, 'This man is blaspheming.'

⁴ But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, 'Why do you think evil in your hearts?

⁵ For which is easier, to say, "Your sins are forgiven", or to say, "Stand up and walk"?

⁶ But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins'—he then said to the paralytic—'Stand up, take your bed and go to your home.'

⁷ And he stood up and went to his home.

⁸ When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

CP 601 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

1 God whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious Donor of our days.

2 Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labour, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred,
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Meditation: – Rev. Alison Westervelt

CCLI 5468807 The Compassion Hymn

1 There is an everlasting kindness
 You lavished on us
 When the radiance of heaven
 Came to rescue the lost
 You called the sheep without
 A shepherd to leave their distress
 For Your streams of forgiveness
 And the shade of Your rest

2 And with compassion for the hurting
 You reached out Your hand
 As the lame ran to meet You
 And the dead breathed again
 You saw behind the eyes of
 Sorrow and shared in our tears
 Heard the sigh of the weary
 Let the children draw near

3 We stood beneath the cross of Calv'ry
 And gazed on Your face
 At the thorns of oppression
 And the wounds of disgrace
 For surely You have borne our suffering
 And carried our grief
 As You pardoned the scoffer
 And showed grace to the thief

4 How beautiful the feet
 That carry this gospel of peace
 To the fields of injustice
 And the valleys of need
 To be a voice of hope and healing
 To answer the cries
 Of the hungry and helpless
 With the mercy of Christ

Chorus

***What boundless love what fathomless grace
 You have shown us O God of compassion
 Each day we live an off'ring of praise
 As we show to the world Your compassion***

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, Irene, Mary, 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, Jorge, Janine and Emillo, Michael S, Larry, Christena, Elsie, Irvin and Margaret, Ashley, Emily. Zaldy and Family, Sandra A, Louise B, Louise A, Justine

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,

Hear and have mercy 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

Grant, O merciful God,
that your Church,
being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one,
may show forth your power among all peoples,
to the glory of your name;
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 565 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand,
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side:
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

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.