

The Service of Matins

Service of Daily Prayer — Treasury of Daily Prayer, pg. O-43



INVOCATION

[M] In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.¹

[C] Amen.

MORNING SENTENCES

[M] In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;

[C] In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

Psalm 5:3

[M] My mouth is filled with your praise,

[C] and with your glory all the day.

Psalm 71:8

[M] O Lord, open my lips,

[C] and my mouth will declare your praise.

Psalm 51:15

[C] Glory be 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.

HYMN

Hail, O Once Despised Jesus | **CW 351**

READING — Holy Monday

John 12:1-11

¹ Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. ³ Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of

¹ The Sign of the Cross (☩) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism. Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism, "In the morning when you get up, make the sign of the holy cross and say, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.'"



Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ “Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?” ⁶ He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. ⁷ Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me.”

⁹ When the large crowd of the Jews learned that Jesus was there, they came, not only on account of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests made plans to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

[M] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise be to you, O Christ!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 35:1-6, 9-10

[M] Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me;

[C] fight against those who fight against me!

[M] Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help!

[C] Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers!

[M] Say to my soul, “I am your salvation!”

[C] Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life!

[M] Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me!

[C] Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away!

[M] Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them!

[C] Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation.

[M] All my bones shall say, “O LORD, who is like you,

[C] delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?”

^{8]} Now, what is the Sacrament of the Altar?

Answer: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in and under the bread and wine which we Christians are commanded by the Word of Christ to eat and to drink. ^{9]} And as we have said of Baptism that it is not simple water, so here also we say the Sacrament is bread and wine, but not mere bread and wine, such as are ordinarily served at the table, but bread and wine comprehended in, and connected with, the Word of God.

^{10]} It is the Word (I say) which makes and distinguishes this Sacrament, so that it is not mere bread and wine, but is, and is called, the body and blood of Christ. For it is said: *Accedat verbum ad elementum, et fit sacramentum.* ("If the Word be joined to the element, it becomes a Sacrament.") This saying of St. Augustine is so properly and so well put that he has scarcely said anything better. The Word must make a Sacrament of the element, else it remains a mere element. ^{11]} Now, it is not the word or ordinance of a prince or emperor, but of the sublime Majesty, at whose feet all creatures should fall, and affirm it is as He says, and accept it with all reverence, fear, and humility.

^{13]} Now here stands the Word of Christ: *Take, eat; this is My body; All of you, drink of it; this is the new testament in My blood,* etc. Here we abide, and would like to see those who will constitute themselves His masters, and make it different from what He has spoken. It is true, indeed, that if you take away the Word or regard it without the words, you have nothing but mere bread and wine. ^{14]} But if the words remain with them, as they shall and must, then, in virtue of the same, it is truly the body and blood of Christ. For as the lips of Christ say and speak, so it is, as He can never lie or deceive.

^{17]} For the Word by which it became a Sacrament and was instituted does not become false because of the person or his unbelief. For He does not say: If you believe or are worthy, you receive My body and blood, but: Take, eat and drink; this is My body and blood. Likewise: Do this (namely, what I now do, institute, give, and bid you take). ^{18]} That is as much as to say, No matter whether you are worthy or unworthy, you have here His body and blood by virtue of these words which are added to the bread and wine. ^{19]} Only note and remember this well; for upon these words rest all our foundation, protection, and defense against all errors and deception that have ever come or may yet come.

LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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 forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M** Almighty God, grant that in the midst of our failures and weaknesses we may be restored through the passion and intercession of your only-begotten Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

- M** Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore you to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

- C** I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

BLESSING

- M** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

Now, go joyfully about your work of the day.