

MORNING PRAYER: MATINS

Friday in the Fourth Week of Easter ✠ 8:30 am



OPENING

The assembly stands.



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



and my mouth shall pro - claim your praise.



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it:



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Al - le - lu - ia.

PSALM 95 VENITE



Al - le - luia. Christ is ris - en in - deed



Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion. 1 Let us come be-fore God's



pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing and raise a loud shout to the



Lord with psalms. For you, Lord, are a great



God, and a great rul - er a - bove all gods.

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the

rock of our sal - va - tion.

2 In your hand are the

cav - erns of the earth; the heights of the hills are al - so

yours. The sea is yours, for you made it; and your

hands have mold - ed the dry land.

Refrain

Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the

rock of our sal - va - tion. 3 Come, let us wor - ship and bow

down; let us kneel be - fore the Lord our mak - er. For the

Lord is our God, and we are the peo - ple of God's



pas - ture and the sheep of God's hand.



Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion.



Al - le - luia. Christ is ris - en in - deed



Oh, come, let us wor - ship and praise.

PSALM 44:9-22

The antiphon is sung once by the cantor and then by all.



Save us, save us for the sake of your steadfast love.

Nevertheless, you have rejected and | humbled us
and do not go forth | with our armies.

**You have made us fall back before our | adversary,
and our enemies have | plundered us.**

You have made us like sheep | to be eaten
and have scattered us a- | mong the nations.

**You are selling your people | for a trifle
and have kept your price low | for their sale.**

You have made us the scorn | of our neighbors,
a mockery and derision to | those around us.

**You have made us a byword a- | mong the nations,
a laughingstock a- | mong the peoples. *Antiphon.***

My humiliation is dai- | ly before me,
and shame has cov- | ered my face;

**because of the taunts of the mockers | and blasphemers,
because of the enemy | and avenger.**

All this has | come upon us;
yet we have not forgotten you, nor have we be- | trayed your covenant.

**Our heart has | not turned back,
nor have our steps strayed | from your path;**

though you thrust us down into a | place of misery,
and covered us over | with deep darkness.

**If we have forgotten the name | of our God,
or stretched out our hands to | some strange god,**

will not God | find it out?

For God knows the secrets | of the heart.

**Indeed, for your sake we are being killed | all day long;
we are accounted as sheep | for the slaughter. *Antiphon.***

A period of silence for reflection is concluded by prayer.

HYMN

The refrain is sung by a soloist and then repeated by the assembly.

By the wa-ters of Ba-by-lon where we sat down,
and there we wept when we re-mem-bered
Zi-on. By the wa-ters of For the wick-ed
car-ried us a-way, cap-tiv-i-ty re-quired from us a song.
How can we sing our ho-ly song in a
strange land? For the wick-ed land? So let the
words of my mouth and the med-i-ta-tions of my
heart be ac-cept-a-ble in your sight, O God.

READING ✠ HABAKKUK 1:1-4, 2:1-4

The assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

LITANY

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

Gracious and loving God,
in the beginning, you created humanity and declared us very good
We were made in Africa, came out of Egypt.
Our beginnings, all of our beginnings, are rooted in dark skin.
We are all siblings. We are all related.
We are all your children.

**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we are all your children.**

Violence entered creation through Cain and Abel.
Born of jealousy, rooted in fear of scarcity,
Brother turned against brother
The soil soaked with blood, Cain asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?"
**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we are our brother's keeper.**

When your people cried out in slavery,
You heard them. You did not ignore their suffering.
You raised up leaders who would speak truth to power
And lead your people into freedom.
Let us hear your voice; grant us the courage to answer your call.
Guide us towards justice and freedom for all people
**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we all deserve to be free.**

Through the prophets you told us the worship you want is for us
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke;
Yet we continue to serve our own interest,
to oppress our workers, to crush our siblings by the neck because we are afraid.
Because they don't look like us, act like us, talk like us.
Yet, they are us. And we are them.

**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we are not free unless all are free.**

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
born in poverty, living under the rule of a foreign empire,
brown-skinned, dark-haired, middle-Eastern.
They called him Yeshua, your Son,
who welcomed the unwelcome, accepted the unacceptable,
the foreigners, the radicals, the illiterate, the poor,
the agents of empire and the ones who sought to overthrow it,
the men and women who were deemed unclean because of their maladies.

**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we are all disciples.**

The faith of Christ spread from region to region, culture to culture.
You delight in the many voices, many languages, raised to you.
You teach us that in Christ, "There is no Jew or Greek,
there is no slave or free, there is no male and female."
In Christ, we are all one.
Not in spite of our differences, but in them.
Black, brown, and white; female, non-binary, and male; citizen and immigrant;
in Christ we are all one.

**We are all siblings, we are all related,
we are all one in Christ.**

Each week, we confess our sin to you and to one another.
We know that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We are captive to the sin of white supremacy,
which values some lives more than others,
which believes some skin tones are more perfect than others,
which commits violence against those who are different.
We confess our complicity in this sin.
We humbly repent.
We ask for the strength to face our sin, to dismantle it, and to be made anew
we trust in your compassion and rely on your mercy
praying that you will give us your wisdom and guide us in your way of peace,
that you will renew us as you renew all of creation
in accordance with your will.

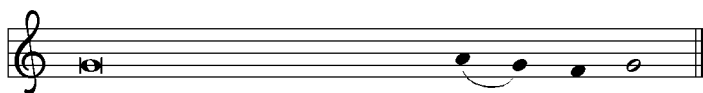
**We ask this, we pray this, as your children:
all siblings, all related, all beloved children of God.**

A period of silence for reflection is kept.

DIALOGUE



You have been born a - new



through the living and abiding word of God.

GOSPEL CANTICLE *BENEDICTUS*

Refrain

In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God the
dawn from on high shall break up - on us.

1 Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel,
2 You have raised up for us a might - y Savior,
3 Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies,
4 to show mercy to our forebears,
5 This was the oath you swore to our fa - ther Abraham:
6 free to worship you without fear,
7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
8 to give God's people knowledge of sal - vation
9 In the tender compassion of our God
10 to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,

1 you have come to your people and set them free.
2 born of the house of your ser - vant David. *Refrain*
3 from the hands of all who hate us,
4 and to re - member your ho - ly covenant.
5 to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
6 holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life. *Refrain*
7 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare the way,
8 by the for - give - ness of their sins.
9 the dawn from on high shall break up - on us,
10 and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Refrain*

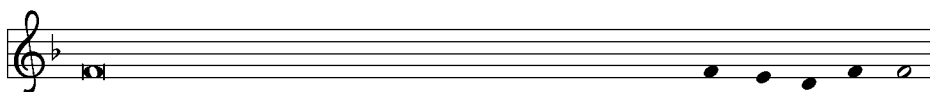
*Each prays **Our Father** in the language of their choosing.*



Let us bless the Lord.



Thanks be to God.



Almighty God, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre-serve us.



A - men.

HYMN

Refrain - All

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;

trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet.

Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this

far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

1 Just remember
the good things God has done,
things that seemed impossible;
oh, praise him for the vict'ries he has won.

2 Don't be discouraged
with trouble in your life;
he'll bear your burdens,
and move all the discord and strife.

All share a sign of peace.

The litany is by The Rev. Elizabeth Rawlings and The Rev. Jennifer Chrien.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #12366-S