

A Service of Morning Prayer for Wednesday, August 5, 2020

Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221 - Memorial



WELCOME

GATHERING

Leader: +In the name of God, the Creator, the Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: O Lord, open our lips

All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: God of the prophets,

All: **you gave to your servant Dominic the gift of love in the work of preaching, so that erring hearts might return to Christ. Grant us everywhere in word and deed to show ourselves true heralds of your gospel, that we may attend to the hungers of the world and know how to speak your word of salvation to those who have lost all hope; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Leader: The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Keep a time of silence

Leader: As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Leader: Wonderous God, you have brought us to this thin place where heaven and earth embrace. Here we bask in your peace and grace

All: **and open our hearts to your holy Word.**

Romans 10:13-17

A reading from the letter to the Romans:

For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!' But not all have obeyed the good news; for Isaiah says, 'Lord, who has believed our message?' So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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PSALM 40:4-11

4 Happy are they who trust in the Lord! * **they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.**

5 Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God! *

how great your wonders and your plans for us! there is none who can be compared with you.

6 Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! * **but they are more than I can count.**

7 In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure * **(you have given me ears to hear you);**

8 Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required, * **and so I said, "Behold, I come.**

9 In the roll of the book it is written concerning me: *

'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep in my heart.'

10 I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; *

behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

11 Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance;

* **I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.**

God our saviour, hear our prayer for all who suffer at the hands of others, and especially for those who suffer for the sake of justice. Raise and comfort them, and lead us all in the paths of loving service. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

THE GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-12

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near." I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town.

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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Passage about St. Dominic taken from *For All the Saints* by The Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Reynolds

Dominic was a Spanish priest who, early in the thirteenth century, founded the Order of Preachers — a brotherhood whose entire vocation is to preach and instruct the faithful in the doctrines of the Church. Dominic's own vocation as a preacher began in 1206, when he was passing through southern France with his bishop. He noticed how the people flocked to the Cathars, who combined a life of radical simplicity with strange, non-Christian beliefs. Dominic realized that the people could not be brought back to the Church so long as bishops and priests made the rights of the institution their primary concern. So he adopted a life modelled on today's gospel: he renounced all property except for the robe on his back and travelled up and down the countryside, preaching to strangers on the road and to crowds in the market-places. Dominic convinced many others to join him in his enterprise of faith, and together they developed a movement which not only countered heresy in France but also spread out and renewed the teaching of the faith throughout southern Europe.

Dominic himself was a quiet person who preferred to live with his fellow-preachers in poverty, rather than accept any of the honours pressed upon him. As an early account of his life says: "He rarely spoke unless it was with God in prayer, or about God for the instruction of those who travelled with him." He specially desired the gift of love, so that he might always care for others in their need for salvation. In his later years he began to develop a rule for his followers, to ensure that their unique vocation would continue in the Church. His new brotherhood was called the Order of Preachers and its members came to be known as "Dominicans" in his honour. Dominic himself died in 1221, still on the road preaching, but the Dominicans carried on his work and became a major force in theological education — as they still are to this day.

INTERCESSIONS

One: Let us pray.... Holy God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we make our prayer to you, saying, Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Loving God, whose peace passes all our understanding; as we face the present pandemic, and experience anxiety and fear, may we hear your voice, bringing calm to the storms of our time. Strengthen those who work to limit the spread of infection, and those who seek to care for the sick, and keep us mindful of the most vulnerable. May we shape our living to protect one another, and may our changing habits, practices and sacrifices, be for the greater love of our community and all your people. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God of the Church, we give you thanks for calling us into communion with you, a spiritual communion that is without boundary. We pray for the Anglican Church of Canada and for our Diocese of Niagara, for our Bishop and all our leaders and for our parishes and congregations; that in these times, more than ever, you might empower us to boldly proclaim your good news, enact justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God who heals, who comforts, and who restores, bring to all those who are sick the certain knowledge and comfort of your presence. Relieve their pain, rest their bodies, protect their minds from despair, and strengthen their spirits, that they may be led to wholeness in you. I invite you in a moment of silence to name before God those known to you in need at this time... (Silence is kept.) Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

**The Anglican Diocese of Niagara
Called to Life – Compelled to Love**

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One: Loving God, your Son, Jesus, wept at the grave of Lazarus his friend. We ask you to console the dying and give comfort to all who mourn this day. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God the giver of gifts, we thank you for those who have the gift of healing and who give of themselves for the well being of others. We pray for scientists, doctors, nurses, respiratory therapists, and all hospital staff working so diligently to protect and treat your children at this time. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Life-giving God, we thank you for our diversity and that all people are wonderfully made in your image. We pray for those who experience discrimination, injustice, marginalisation, or violence because of who they are. May all people be honoured as children of God. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: Creator God, we thank you for the wonder of your creation. We pray for those working to safeguard its natural beauty and resources, and to nurture and preserve the many species that witness to your imagination. Help us to honour your gift of creation and shape our lives in care of it. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

One: God of abundance, in this time of economic uncertainty and fear, when many have been made unemployed, when many small businesses struggle, when our instinct is to hold tight to what we have, help us to know that there is enough for all, and encourage us to share generously of your good gifts to us. Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Leader: Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All: Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN