

# Morning Prayer of the Church for Monday of Holy Week

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*We make the sign of the cross as we say:*

O God come to our aid  
Glory be to the Father...

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.  
All: As it was in the ...without end, Amen.



## Invitatory Psalm

## Psalm 94 (95)

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*From the earliest times the Church has used this psalm as a call to worship.  
We are invited to come singing into the presence of God; to come with enthusiastic joy and thanksgiving  
as the best way to express our love to God, who is both saviour and king.*

Leader: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.  
All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the God who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

A mighty God is the Lord, a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his.  
To him belongs the sea, for he made it and the dry land shaped by his hands.

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

Leader: Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us:  
for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand.

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

Leader: For forty years I was wearied of these people and I said:  
“Their hearts are astray, these people do not know my ways.”  
Then I took an oath in my anger: “Never shall they enter my rest.”

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

All: Christ the Lord was tempted and suffered for us. Come, let us adore him.

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## Hymn

O Sacred Head, surrounded  
By crown of piercing thorn!  
O bleeding Head, so wounded,  
Reviled and put to scorn!  
The pow'r of death comes o'er you,  
The glow of life decays,  
Yet angel hosts adore you,  
And tremble as they gaze.

O Jesus, we adore thee,  
Upon the cross our King!  
We humbly bow before thee,  
And of thy vict'ry sing!  
Thy cross is our salvation,  
Our hope from day to day,  
Our peace and consolation  
When life shall fade away.

## Psalm 41 (42)

*The author of this psalm, once a priest in the temple, is in exile far away from the Jerusalem Temple Jerusalem for which he longs. We find him pining for the House of God, and for the intimacy he once enjoyed with God there. He feels wounded and hurt, and pours out his soul to God in this deeply moving lamentation.*

*Searching for words to describe his painful need for God, the author of this psalm thinks of the deer, which, in the blazing hot summer, stretches its neck out as far as possible in its search for water in the dried up streams and pools.*

*His anguish increases as the unbelievers taunt and mock him daily, asking: "Where is your God?" The pagans of those times mocked the Israelites for worshipping a God who could not be seen, and who did not allow representations of Himself to be made. All the pagan religions had idols which could be carried about, so that it did not matter where they were supposed to live. The problem for the Israelite was that he believed, wrongly, that God could only be found in the Temple in Jerusalem.*

*Trying to relieve the pain, the poet relives those wonderful scenes in the Temple during the great festivals, when he had the privilege of leading the processions into the House of God.*

Antiphon

**Jesus said: 'My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me.'**

Leader

ALL

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,  
so my soul is yearning for you, my God.

**My soul is thirsting for God, the God of my life;  
when can I enter and see the face of God?**

My tears have become my bread, by night, by day,  
as I hear it said all the day long: 'Where is your God?'

**These things will I remember as I pour out my soul:  
how I would lead the rejoicing crowd  
into the house of God,  
amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving,  
the throng wild with joy.**

Why are you cast down, my soul, why groan within me?  
Hope in God; I will praise him still,  
my saviour and my God.

**My soul is cast down within me as I think of you,  
from the country of Jordan and Mount Hermon,  
from the Hill of Mizar.**

Deep is calling on deep, in the roar of waters;  
your torrents and all your waves swept over me.

**By day the Lord will send his loving kindness;  
by night I will sing to him, praise the God of my life.**

I will say to God, my rock: 'Why have you forgotten me?  
Why do I go mourning oppressed by the foe?'

**With cries that pierce me to the heart,  
my enemies revile me, saying to me all the day long:  
'Where is your God?'**

Why are you cast down, my soul, why groan within me?  
Hope in God; I will praise him still,

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,**


my saviour and my God.

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

*Antiphon*

**Jesus said: 'My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me.'**

### Psalm-prayer

 Lord may your power be shown among us so that our spirits may not be downcast. May the waves and torrents of water be calmed and may the tempest of Your wrath be followed the great serenity that comes from your forgiveness. Like the deer that yearn for running stream, may our souls always yearn for you, our living God. Inspire us to yearn for you always, like the deer for running streams, until you satisfy every longing in heaven.

### Short Reading

*Jeremiah 11:19-20*

**I** was like a trustful lamb being led to the slaughter-house, not knowing the schemes they were plotting against me, 'Let us destroy the tree in its strength, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name may be quickly forgotten!' But you, Lord of Hosts, who pronounce a just sentence, who probe the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you.

### Short Responsory

You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.  
From every tribe and tongue and people and nation.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**All: You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.**  
**All: You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.**  
**All: You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.**

## Canticle of Zechariah (*The Benedictus*)

*Luke*

*Antiphon: Father, Righteous One, the world has not known you,  
but I have known you, because it was you that sent me.*

Blest be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
Who brings the dawn and darkest night dispels,  
Who raises up a mighty Saviour from the earth,  
Of David's line, a son of royal birth.

The prophets tell a story just begun  
Of vanquished foe and glorious vict'ry won,  
Of promise made to all who keep the law as guide:  
God's faithful love and mercy will abide.

This is the oath once sworn to Abraham:  
All shall be free to dwell upon the land,  
Free now to praise, unharmed by the oppressor's rod,  
Holy and righteous in the sight of God.

*Antiphon: Father, Righteous One, the world has not known you,  
but I have known you, because it was you that sent me.*

And you, my child, this day you shall be called  
The promised one, the prophet of our God,  
For you will go before the Lord to clear the way,  
And shepherd all into the light of day.

The tender love God promised from our birth  
Is soon to dawn upon this shadowed earth,  
To shine on those whose sorrows seem to never cease,  
To guide our feet into the path of peace.

All glory be to God, Creator blest,  
To Jesus Christ, God's love made manifest,  
And to the Holy Spirit, gentle Comforter,  
All glory be, both now and ever more.

## Prayers and intercessions

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Let us pray earnestly to Christ our Saviour, who redeemed us by his death and resurrection.

*Lord have mercy*

**All: Lord have mercy**

You went up to Jerusalem to endure the passion and enter into glory; lead your Church into the paschal feast of eternal life.

*Lord have mercy*

**All: Lord have mercy**

Your heart was pierced with a lance; heal the wounds of our human weakness.

*Lord have mercy*

**All: Lord have mercy**

You made your cross the tree of life; share your victory with all the baptized.

*Lord have mercy*

**All: Lord have mercy**

You gave salvation to the repentant thief; pardon all our sins.

*Lord have mercy*

**All: Lord have mercy**

Our Father, who art in heaven.....

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## Concluding Prayer

**A**lmighty God, grant that we who are constantly betrayed by our own weakness may draw the breath of new life from the passion and death of your Only-Begotten Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All Amen.**

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**All: Amen.**

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## THE ANGELUS

*The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:*

*Hail Mary....*

**And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.**

**Holy Mary....**

*Behold the handmaid of the Lord:*

*Hail Mary....*

**Be it done unto me according to Thy word.**

**Holy Mary....**

*And the Word was made Flesh:*

*Hail Mary....*

**And dwelt among us.**

**Holy Mary....**

*Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,*

**that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray:

**ALL: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen**