

Monday, March 3  
Morning Prayer  
John and Charles Wesley

Opening Sentence

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:8, 9*

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

Invitatory Lent

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
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.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Venite Psalm 95:1-7

Come let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

Antiphon

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: Come let us adore him.

Psalm 89

Part I *Misericordias Domini*

1

Your love, O LORD, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

2

For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

3

"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

4

'I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations.'"

5

The heavens bear witness to your wonders, O LORD, \*  
and to your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;

6

For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? \*  
who is like the LORD among the gods?

7

God is much to be feared in the council of the holy ones, \*  
great and terrible to all those round about him.

8

Who is like you, LORD God of hosts? \*  
O mighty LORD, your faithfulness is all around you.

9

You rule the raging of the sea \*  
and still the surging of its waves.

10

You have crushed Rahab of the deep with a deadly wound; \*  
you have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.

11

Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; \*  
you laid the foundations of the world and all that is in it.

12

You have made the north and the south; \*  
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your Name.

13

You have a mighty arm; \*  
strong is your hand and high is your right hand.

14

Righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne; \*  
love and truth go before your face.

15

Happy are the people who know the festal shout! \*  
they walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

16

They rejoice daily in your Name; \*  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.

17

For you are the glory of their strength, \*  
and by your favor our might is exalted.

18

Truly, the LORD is our ruler; \*  
The Holy One of Israel is our King.

Gloria Patri

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.

Genesis 49:1-28

<sup>1</sup> Then Jacob called his sons, and said: 'Gather around, that I may tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

<sup>2</sup> Assemble and hear, O sons of Jacob; listen to Israel your father.

<sup>3</sup> Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might and the first fruits of my vigor, excelling in rank and excelling in power.

<sup>4</sup> Unstable as water, you shall no longer excel because you went up onto your father's bed; then you defiled it you went up onto my couch!

<sup>5</sup> Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords.

<sup>6</sup> May I never come into their council; may I not be joined to their company for in their anger they killed men, and at their whim they hamstringed oxen.

<sup>7</sup> Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

<sup>8</sup> Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you.

<sup>9</sup> Judah is a lion's whelp; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He crouches down, he stretches out like a lion, like a lioness who dares rouse him up?

<sup>10</sup> The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and the obedience of the peoples is his.

<sup>11</sup> Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he washes his garments in wine and his robe in the

blood of grapes;

<sup>12</sup> his eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

<sup>13</sup> Zebulun shall settle at the shore of the sea; he shall be a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon.

<sup>14</sup> Issachar is a strong donkey, lying down between the sheepfolds;

<sup>15</sup> he saw that a resting place was good, and that the land was pleasant; so he bowed his shoulder to the burden, and became a slave at forced labor.

<sup>16</sup> Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel.

<sup>17</sup> Dan shall be a snake by the roadside, a viper along the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider falls backward.

<sup>18</sup> I wait for your salvation, O LORD.

<sup>19</sup> Gad shall be raided by raiders, but he shall raid at their heels.

<sup>20</sup> Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall provide royal delicacies.

<sup>21</sup> Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears lovely fawns.

<sup>22</sup> Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall.

<sup>23</sup> The archers fiercely attacked him; they shot at him and pressed him hard.

<sup>24</sup> Yet his bow remained taut, and his arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob, by the name of the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel,

<sup>25</sup> by the God of your father, who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lies beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb.

<sup>26</sup> The blessings of your father are stronger than the blessings of the eternal mountains, the bounties of the everlasting hills; may they be on the head of Joseph, on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.

<sup>27</sup> Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey, and at evening dividing the spoil.'

<sup>28</sup> All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing.

Canticle 9 The First Song of Isaiah

Ecce, Deus Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \*  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

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.

1 Corinthians 10:14-11:1

<sup>14</sup> Therefore, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols.

<sup>15</sup> I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say.

<sup>16</sup> The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

<sup>17</sup> Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

<sup>18</sup> Consider the people of Israel; are not those who eat the sacrifices partners in the altar?

<sup>19</sup> What do I imply then? That food sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

<sup>20</sup> No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be partners with demons.

<sup>21</sup> You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

<sup>22</sup> Or are we provoking the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

<sup>23</sup> "All things are lawful," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up.

<sup>24</sup> Do not seek your own advantage, but that of the other.

<sup>25</sup> Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience,

<sup>26</sup> for "the earth and its fullness are the Lord's."

<sup>27</sup> If an unbeliever invites you to a meal and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience.

<sup>28</sup> But if someone says to you, "This has been offered in sacrifice," then do not eat it, out of consideration for the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience

<sup>29</sup> I mean the other's conscience, not your own. For why should my liberty be subject to the judgment of someone else's conscience?

<sup>30</sup> If I partake with thankfulness, why should I be denounced because of that for which I give thanks?

<sup>31</sup> So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God.

<sup>32</sup> Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,

<sup>33</sup> just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, so that they may be saved.

<sup>1</sup> Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

<sup>24</sup> From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,

<sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.

<sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

<sup>27</sup> He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."

<sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."

<sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go the demon has left your daughter."

<sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.

<sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.

<sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.

<sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."

<sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.

<sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Canticle 19 The Song of the Redeemed  
Magna et mirabilia Revelation 15:3-4

O ruler of the universe, Lord God,  
great deeds are they that you have done, \*  
surpassing human understanding.  
Your ways are ways of righteousness and truth, \*

O King of all the ages  
Who can fail to do you homage, Lord  
and sing the praises of your Name  
for you only are the Holy One.

All nations will draw near and fall down before you  
because your just and holy works have been revealed.

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.

John and Charles Wesley *3 March 1791*

(Charles Wesley died 29 March 1788. John Wesley died 2 March 1791. Because Chad is remembered on 2 March, the Wesleys are remembered on 3 March.)

The Wesley brothers, born in 1703 and 1707, were leaders of the evangelical revival in the Church of England in the eighteenth century. They both attended Oxford University, and there they gathered a few friends with whom they undertook a strict adherence to the worship and discipline of the Book of Common Prayer, from which strict observance they received the nickname, "Methodists." Having been ordained, they went to the American colony of Georgia in 1735, John as a missionary and Charles as secretary to Governor Oglethorpe. They found the experience disheartening, and returned home in a few years. There, three days apart, they underwent a conversion experience. John, present with a group of Moravians who were reading Martin Luther's *Preface to the Epistle to the Romans*, received a strong emotional awareness of the love of Christ displayed in freely forgiving his sins and granting him eternal life.

Following this experience, John and Charles, with others, set about to stir up in others a like awareness of and response to the saving love of God. Of the two, John was the more powerful preacher, and averaged 8000 miles of travel a year, mostly on horseback. At the time of his death he was probably the best known and best loved man in England.

(Albert C. Outler, *John Wesley's Sermons: An Introduction*, p 79f)

Wesley's biblical world was, however, no enclave. *Sola Scriptura* was never a displacement of, or substitute for, classical learning: and this was natural enough in view of the fact that he had mastered the baseline curriculum of his Oxford education and had come to cherish the classical tradition as the font of Western civilization.

In the sermons (and elsewhere, too) Wesley's favourite classical source was Horace; there are twenty-seven quotations from him in the sermons alone, some repeated in different contexts. One sense that he read Virgil with more personal pleasure, but he quotes from him only twenty-one times. Ovid follows with ten, Cicero with nine, Juvenal with seven. Thirteen others are quoted at least once: Aristophanes, Hadrian, Homer, Lucan, Lucretius, Persius, Pindar, Sophocles, Suetonius, Symmachus, Terence, Velleius Paterculus.

This display was more than mere ornamentation; (My comment: this would have violated Wesley's doctrine of 'plain preaching'.) within these borrowings we find the germs of some of Wesley's most distinctive general ideas (e.g. his participation theme, his mind-body dualism, and his ideas about psycho-physical parallelism). These are major sources for his ideas about human nature, human volition, and the human passions. Out of this heritage had come his predilection for form over raw feelings, his concept of conscience as a universal moral sense. Plato had bolstered his convictions about the ontological primacy of good over evil. The whole of the Greco-Roman tradition had stressed coherence as a criterion of rationality. Besides, these ancient authors were shrewd critics of human folly; thus Wesley found in them discerning witnesses to the flaws in contemporary proposals about 'natural' theology and ethics. It was in this sense that his long dialogue with the ancients was a genuine *preparatio evangelica*; one might even suppose that he might still commend it as such.

But, although Wesley found it natural to approach the Gospel with habits of thought formed by a classical education, he was quick to recognize the value of other approaches. The early Methodist meetings were often led by lay preachers with very limited education. On one occasion, such a preacher took as his text Luke 19:21, "Lord, I feared thee, because thou art an austere man." Not knowing the word "austere," he thought that the text spoke of "an oyster man." He spoke about the work of those who retrieve oysters from the sea-bed. The diver plunges down from the surface, cut off from his natural environment, into bone-chilling water. He gropes in the dark, cutting his hands on the sharp edges of the shells. Now he has the oyster, and kicks back up to the surface, up to the warmth and light and air, clutching in his torn and bleeding hands the object of his search. So Christ descended from the glory of heaven into the squalor of earth, into sinful human society, in order to retrieve humans and bring them back up with Him to the glory of heaven, His torn and bleeding hands a sign of the value He has placed on the object of His quest. Twelve men were converted that evening. Afterwards, someone complained to Wesley about the inappropriateness of allowing preachers who were too ignorant to know the meaning of the texts they were preaching on. Wesley, simply said, "Never mind, the Lord got a dozen oysters tonight."

Charles was the better hymn-writer of the two. He wrote over 6000 hymns, including about 600 for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Some of the better known are the following:

- A charge to keep I have
- And can it be that I should gain
- Author of life divine
- Christ the Lord is risen today
- Christ, whose glory fills the skies
- Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire
- Come, O Thou Traveller unknown
- Come, thou long expected Jesus
- Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go
- Gentle Jesus, meek and mild
- Hail the day that sees Him rise
- Hark, the herald angels sing,
- Jesus, Lover of my soul
- Let saints on earth in concert sing
- Lo, He comes with clouds descending

- Love Divine, all loves excelling
- O Jesus, full of pardoning grace
- O Love Divine, how sweet Thou art!
- O Thou who camest from above.
- Oh for a heart to praise my God
- Oh for a thousand tongues to sing
- Our Lord is risen from the dead
- Rejoice! the Lord is King
- Soldiers of Christ, arise!
- Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim

Here are two of his hymns printed out at length:

Oh for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories  
of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace! My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the  
honors of thy name. Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our  
sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and  
health, and peace. He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner  
free; his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me. He  
speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful,  
broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe. In Christ, your head,  
you then shall know, shall feel your sins forgiven, anticipate your  
heaven below, and own that love in heaven.

[*Note:* that in the second line of this next hymn, the word "interest" is used in the older sense of "benefit" or "advantage."  
(Thus, in some contest, an **un**interested person is one who is bored by the proceedings, but a **dis**interested person is one who  
has nothing to gain or lose personally by the outcome. We want a referee or judge to be **dis**interested, but not to be  
**un**interested. The word "interested" is ambiguous, being the opposite of both.) Instead of "an interest in" in the second line, an  
editor seeking to modernize the language of this hymn might write "my healing from" or "redemption from" or "salvation  
from" or "a cleansing from" or the like.]

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain-- for me, who Him to death pursued? Amazing  
love! how can it be that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? 'Tis mystery all!  
Th' Immortal dies: Who can explore His strange design? In vain the first-  
born seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! let  
earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more. He left His Father's throne  
above,-- so free, so infinite His grace-- emptied Himself of all but love,  
and bled for Adam's helpless race: 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for,  
O my God, it found out me! Long my imprisoned spirit lay Fast bound in sin and  
nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quickening ray,-- I woke, the  
dungeon flamed with light; my chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went  
forth, and followed Thee. No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in  
Him, is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness  
divine, Bold I approach the eternal throne, and claim the crown, thorough  
Christ my own.

It was the intention of the Wesleys and their colleagues that their "Methodist Societies" should be a group within the existing  
structure of the Anglican Church, but after their deaths the Societies in America, and to a lesser extent in England, developed a  
separate status.

written by James Kiefer

## Prayer

Lord God, who inspired your servants John and Charles Wesley with burning zeal for the sanctification of souls, and endowed them with eloquence in speech and song: Kindle in your Church, we entreat you, such fervor, that those whose faith has cooled may be warmed, and those who have not known Christ may turn to him and be saved; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Suffrages A

Show us your mercy, O Lord;

And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;

And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

Let your way be known upon earth;

Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day: Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For Mission

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. *Amen.*

World Cycle of Prayer

We pray for the people of El Salvador.

## Country Profile: El Salvador

(BBC)

### Ecumenical Cycle of Prayer

We pray for our sisters and brothers, members of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

### The Orthodox Presbyterian Church

#### For All Sorts and Conditions

O God, the creator and preserver of all, we humbly beseech you for all sorts and conditions of people; that you would be pleased to make your ways known unto them, your saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for your holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by your good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to your fatherly goodness all those who are in any ways afflicted or distressed, in mind, body, or estate; that it may please you to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities, giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

#### For the Poor and Neglected

Almighty and most merciful God, we remember before you all poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the old and the sick, and all who have none to care for them. Help us to heal those who are broken in body or spirit, and to turn their sorrow into joy. Grant this, Father, for the love of your Son, who for our sake became poor, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### For Those Who Live Alone

Almighty God, whose Son had nowhere to lay his head: Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude, but that, following in his steps, they may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

#### General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and

glory throughout all ages. Amen.

### A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

### Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

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. *Romans 15:13*