

Morning Prayer in February and Lent



Lent, from the old English word 'Lencten', meaning 'spring season'; a time for change, growth and new life.

Gathering

An informal welcome is given.

O Lord, open our lips.
And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Christ has brought us out of darkness.
To dwell in his marvellous light.

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

Silence is kept.

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. **Amen.**

Psalm 139

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

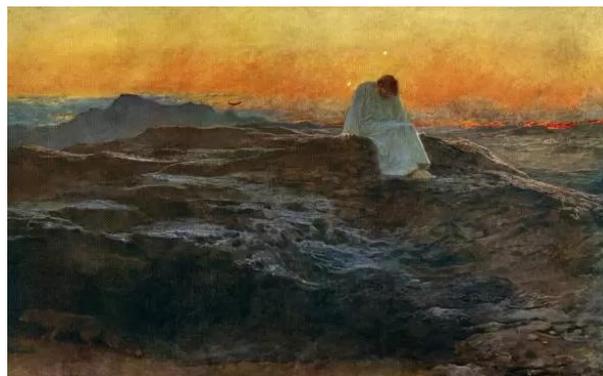
If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea;

Even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night';

Even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Glory to God the Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen.



Christ in the Wilderness

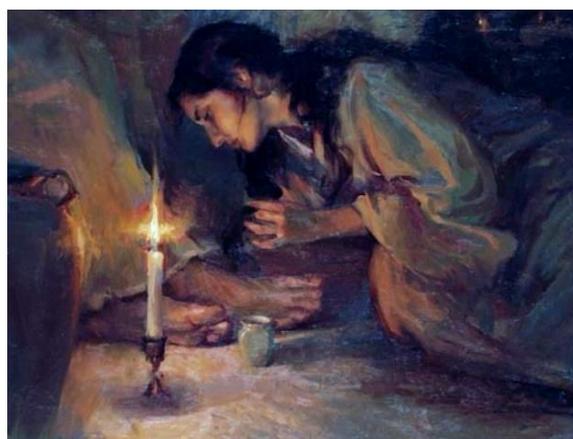
Reading from Scripture

This may be followed by a brief reflection.

A Response

God of heaven, when our foundations are shaken and there is no escape, test us, but not to destruction.

Look on the face of your anointed and heal us in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.



Jesus is anointed by Mary at Bethany

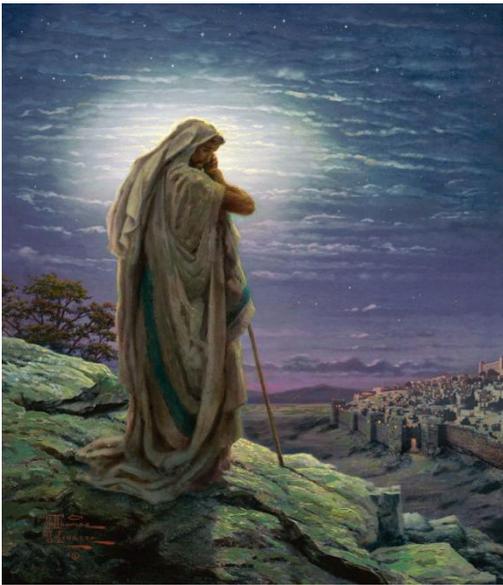
A Time of Prayer

We take a few moments to be still and reflect.

The Collect

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Jesus cries over Jerusalem

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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 for ever.
Amen.**



The Triumphant Entry

The Dismissal

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.