

## **Morning Prayer**

Wednesday, November 8th

## Psalm 72

- 1 Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
- 2 May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.
- 3 May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- 4 May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.
- 5 May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. 6 May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- 8 May he have dominion from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth.
- 9 May his foes bow down before him, and his enemies lick the dust.
- 10 May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute; may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
- 11 May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.
- 12 For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

- 13 He has pity on the weak and the needy and saves the lives of the needy.
- 14 From oppression and violence he redeems their life, and precious is their blood in his sight.
- 15 Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him. May prayer be made for him continually and blessings invoked for him all day long.
- 16 May there be abundance of grain in the land; may it wave on the tops of the mountains; may its fruit be like Lebanon; and may people blossom in the cities like the grass of the field.
- 17 May his name endure forever, his fame continue as long as the sun. May all nations be blessed in him; may they pronounce him happy.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
- 19 Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.
- 20 The prayers of David son of Jesse are ended.

## A reading from the Book of Revelation (Revelation 12:1-12)

A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns and seven diadems on his heads. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to deliver a child, so that he might devour her child as soon as it was born. And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a scepter of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so that there she can be nourished for one thousand two hundred sixty days. And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven proclaiming, "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they

did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath because he knows that his time is short!"

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.

## A reading from the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 13:53-58)

When Jesus had finished these parables, he left that place. He came to his hometown and began to teach the people in their synagogue, so that they were astounded and said, "Where did this man get this wisdom and these deeds of power? Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary? And are not his brothers James and Joseph and Simon and Judas? And are not all his sisters with us? Where then did this man get all this?" And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor except in their own hometown and in their own house." And he did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God.