



## Morning Prayer

Wednesday, April 23rd

### Psalm 97

1 The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

**2 Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**

3 Fire goes before him and consumes his adversaries on every side.

**4 His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.**

5 The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.

**6 The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples behold his glory.**

7 All servants of images are put to shame, those who make their boast in worthless idols; all gods bow down before him.

**8 Zion hears and is glad, and the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments, O God.**

9 For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

**10 You who love the Lord, hate evil; he guards the lives of his faithful; he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.**

11 Light dawns for the righteous and joy for the upright in heart.

**12 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (3:1-10)**

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple, and they were filled with wonder and astonishment at what had happened to him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**A reading from the Gospel according to John (15:1-11)**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**