

Evening Prayer

The First Tuesday After the Epiphany

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Aelred of Rievaulx, *Abbot & Theologian*, 1167

The Officiant says

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.” *Psalm 122:1*

Confession of Sin

The Officiant then says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.

The Officiant stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

Invitatory and Psalter

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

Officiant and People

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. Alleluia.

Psalm 141:1-3, 8ab

Domine, clamavi

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly; *
hear my voice when I cry to you.
Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, *
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.
Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips; *
let not my heart incline to any evil thing.
My eyes are turned to you, Lord God; *
in you I take refuge.

Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Psalms Appointed

Psalms 10 & 11

Psalm 10

Ut quid, Domine?

- 1 Why do you stand so far off, O LORD, *
and hide yourself in time of trouble?
- 2 The wicked arrogantly persecute the poor, *
but they are trapped in the schemes they have devised.
- 3 The wicked boast of their heart's desire; *
the covetous curse and revile the LORD.

- 4 The wicked are so proud that they care not for God; *
their only thought is, "God does not matter."
- 5 Their ways are devious at all times;
your judgments are far above out of their sight; *
they defy all their enemies.
- 6 They say in their heart, "I shall not be shaken; *
no harm shall happen to me ever."
- 7 Their mouth is full of cursing, deceit, and oppression; *
under their tongue are mischief and wrong.
- 8 They lurk in ambush in public squares
and in secret places they murder the innocent; *
they spy out the helpless.
- 9 They lie in wait, like a lion in a covert;
they lie in wait to seize upon the lowly; *
they seize the lowly and drag them away in their net.
- 10 The innocent are broken and humbled before them; *
the helpless fall before their power.
- 11 They say in their heart, "God has forgotten; *
he hides his face; he will never notice."
- 12 Rise up, O LORD;
lift up your hand, O God; *
do not forget the afflicted.
- 13 Why should the wicked revile God? *
why should they say in their heart, "You do not care"?
- 14 Surely, you behold trouble and misery; *
you see it and take it into your own hand.
- 15 The helpless commit themselves to you, *
for you are the helper of orphans.
- 16 Break the power of the wicked and evil; *
search out their wickedness until you find none.
- 17 The LORD is King for ever and ever; *
the ungodly shall perish from his land.
- 18 The LORD will hear the desire of the humble; *
you will strengthen their heart and your ears shall hear;

19 To give justice to the orphan and oppressed, *
so that mere mortals may strike terror no more.

Psalm 11

In Domino confido

- 1 In the LORD have I taken refuge; *
how then can you say to me,
“Fly away like a bird to the hilltop;
- 2 For see how the wicked bend the bow
and fit their arrows to the string, *
to shoot from ambush at the true of heart.
- 3 When the foundations are being destroyed, *
what can the righteous do?”
- 4 The LORD is in his holy temple; *
the LORD’s throne is in heaven.
- 5 His eyes behold the inhabited world; *
his piercing eye weighs our worth.
- 6 The LORD weighs the righteous as well as the wicked, *
but those who delight in violence he abhors.
- 7 Upon the wicked he shall rain coals of fire and
burning sulphur; *
a scorching wind shall be their lot.
- 8 For the LORD is righteous;
he delights in righteous deeds; *
and the just shall see his face.

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.

Readings

A period of silence will follow each reading.

First Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle D

A Song of the Wilderness

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong, do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with judgment to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame leap like a deer, *

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness *
and streams in the desert;
The burning sand shall become a pool *
and the thirsty ground, springs of water.
The ransomed of God shall return with singing, *
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs, *
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-28

A Reading from Mark.

After John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him. They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

Canticle 15

The Song of Mary *Magnificat*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him *
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm, *
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.

Prayers

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

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.
Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

The Officiant and People say responsively

Suffrages B.

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before
the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of Aelred of
Rievaulx and all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

Collect of the Day

The Officiant then says

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him
your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are
baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess
him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one
God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

Aelred of Rievaulx

Pour into our hearts, O God, the Holy Spirit's gift of love, that we, clasping each
the other's hand, may share the joy of friendship, human and divine, and with your
servant Aelred draw many to your community of love; through Jesus Christ the
Righteous, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. *Amen.*

For our Country

Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly ask
you that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of your favor and glad
to do your will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure
manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance,
and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people
the multitudes brought here out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the
spirit of wisdom those to whom in your Name we entrust the authority of
government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through
obedience to your law, we may show forth your praise among the nations of the
earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of
trouble, suffer not our trust in you to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our
Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Aid against Perils

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Collect for Mission

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Intercessor

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.

A Prayer in Time of Great Sickness and Mortality

O most mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succor. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

For the Oppressed

Look with pity, O heavenly Father, upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. And grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Litany of Remembrance

As the world continues to respond to the pandemic of the virus, help us, O Lord, to remember.

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have no risk factors remember those who are vulnerable.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between their health or paying their rent.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

May we who settle in for quarantine at home remember those who have no home.
Help us, O Lord, to remember

As fear grips our country let us choose love. During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. *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.*

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Officiant

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*

Announcements

Announcements may be made at this point in the service.

Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot and Theologian, 1167

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Aelred was born in 1109, into a family which had long been the treasurers of the shrine of Cuthbert of Lindisfarne at Durham Cathedral. While still a youth, he was sent for education in upper-class life to the court of King David of Scotland, son of Queen Margaret. The King's stepsons, Simon and Waldef, were his models and intimate friends. But after intense disillusion and inner struggle, Aelred went to Yorkshire, where he became a Cistercian monk at the abbey of Rievaulx in 1133.

Aelred soon became a major figure in English church life. Sent to Rome on diocesan affairs by Archbishop William of York, he returned by way of Clairvaux. Here he made a deep impression on Bernard, who encouraged the young monk to write his first work, *Mirror of Charity*, on Christian perfection. In 1143, Aelred led the founding of a new Cistercian house at Revesby. Four years later, he was appointed abbot of Rievaulx. By the time of his death in 1167, the abbey had more than 600 monks, including Aelred's biographer and friend, Walter Daniel. During this period, Aelred wrote his best known work, *Spiritual Friendship*.

Friendship, Aelred teaches, is both a gift from God and a creation of human effort. While love is universal, freely given to all, friendship is a particular love between individuals, of which the example is Jesus and John the Beloved Disciple. As abbot, Aelred allowed his monks to hold hands and give other expressions of friendship. In the spirit of Anselm of Canterbury and Bernard of Clairvaux, Aelred writes:

“There are four qualities that characterize a friend: Loyalty, right intention, discretion, and patience. Right intention seeks for nothing other than God and natural good. Discretion brings understanding of what is done on a friend's behalf, and ability to know when to correct faults. Patience enables one to be justly rebuked, or to bear adversity on another's behalf. Loyalty guards and protects friendship, in good or bitter times.”