

Sentence of Scripture

'I am the way, and the truth, and the life,' says the Lord.
'No one comes to the Father except through me.'

John 14.6

Prayer of the day

Everliving God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:
give us grace to love one another,
to follow in the way of his commandments,
and to share his risen life;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings

Proverbs 8:22-31

²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
²³Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth,
when there were no springs abounding with water.
²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—
²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷When he established the heavens,
I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰then I was beside him,
like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always,
³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalms 97

¹ The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice:
let the multitude of islands be glad.
² Clouds and darkness are round about him:
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
³ Fire goes before him:
and burns up his enemies on every side.
⁴ His lightnings light the world:
the earth sees it and quakes.
⁵ The mountains melt like wax before his face:
from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
⁶ The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness:
and all peoples have seen his glory.

⁷ They are ashamed, all those who serve idols and glory in mere nothings:

all gods bow down before him.

⁸ Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced:

because of your judgements, O God.

⁹ For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth:

you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰ The Lord loves those that hate evil:

**the Lord guards the life of the faithful,
and delivers them from the hand of the ungodly.**

¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous:

and joy for the true of heart.

¹² Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous:

and give thanks to his holy name.

1 John 1:1-5

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

John 20:2-8

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; (NRSV)

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**