

MORNING PRAYER

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The Season after Epiphany 2022

Opening Acclamation

Blessed are you, beloved our God;

In you is glory and love forever.

- Jim Cotter, "Prayer at Day's Dawning"

Hymn of Praise

It's a Good Day

This life

Is but one mighty day.

We've been spinning around the sun

Dipping into darkness and rising

Around and around.

In this one big, beautiful day

Of gathering love

In all its shades

We get to be both children

And elders,

We get to be playful.

We get to be part of beauty,

We become kneaded with meaning,

We get to serve something higher.

This one day is spinning us all

Into lovers of this great light

That the immense brilliance of the sun

Is only hinting at —

It's a good day.

- Chelan Harkin

Collect of the Day

As our awareness of your light grows, O God, help us to open our hearts and our lives to your presence; help us to receive insight and wisdom; help us to learn the way of love, so we may be part of the healing of the world. We pray because of Jesus, your light of love. **Amen.**

Reading

Meditation

Prayers

Please add your prayers to the Facebook comments.

As the days unfold, and the winter light surrounds us, we turn to you, O God, the source of life:

We pray for ourselves, in this time when everyone's lives are disrupted. Encourage us to hope, to work, to create; and help us to be kind to ourselves when we need to rest.

We pray for our neighbors. Help us all to reach toward one another with compassion and kindness. We pray that our differences will prompt us to learn more about one another; help us to see one another in the light of your profound love for all of us.

We pray for our cities. Grant wisdom, insight, and collaborative work for those charged with the many concerns of our local communities, complicated by the pandemic.

We pray for our state, and for our nation. We give great thanks for the leaders who are working tirelessly to imagine solutions to so many intractable problems. We pray for those who, in the face of our current challenges, have abdicated their responsibility to the common good.

We pray for our church, and every church struggling to provide worship, care, fellowship, and education in this season. Help us to find balance in the struggle, and joy in your service.

We pray with great tenderness for those who have died. Sustain those who grieve. Grant to the departed your grace; may they find joy in your eternal presence.

All this we pray because of Jesus, our Healer. **Amen.**

Announcements

Benediction

Living One,
May we encounter you this day
In the laughter of children,
In the skills of those who create,
In the pauses of the elderly,
In the patience of those who teach,
In the loyalty of friends,
In the dedication of those who serve,
In the exuberance of animals,
In those willing to make fools of themselves.
May we be your blessing to one another. Amen,
- *Jim Cotter, ibid.*

Dismissal

Let us go forth into this day, shining with the light of love.