

Morning Prayer

July 2026

Opening Acclamation

Morning is upon us, beloved people of God.

Today let us love what God loves;

Today, let us love as God loves.

Hymn of Praise

Morning Poem- Mary Oliver

Every morning the world is created.

Under the orange sticks of the sun

the heaped ashes of the night

turn into leaves again

and fasten themselves to the high branches –

and the ponds appear like black cloth

on which are painted islands of summer lilies.

If it is your nature to be happy

you will swim away along the soft trails

for hours, your imagination alighting everywhere.

And if your spirit carries in it the thorn

that is heavier than lead –

if it's all you can do to keep on trudging –

there is still somewhere deep within you

a beast shouting that the earth

is exactly what it wanted –

each pond with its blazing lilies

is a prayer heard and answered lavishly,

every morning, whether or not you have ever dared to be happy,

whether or not you have ever dared to pray.

Collect of the Day

Beloved, loving God, you planted the first garden.

In the bright days of summer, help us to tend all that you give us:

The earth, the many creatures you have created in love, and one another.

Teach us to plant love everywhere, to tend it well,

And to harvest it and be nourished by it.

We pray with confidence in your sustaining grace. Amen.

Reading

Meditation

Prayers

Holy One, we turn to you this morning in gratitude. We thank you for this day, and all its potential.

Silence

Holy One, we seek your guidance as we see the world changing around us.

silence

Holy One, grant us wisdom in our choice-making.

silence

Holy One, help us to be courageous in truth-telling and fierce in our loving.

Silence

Holy One, we pray for those in need of healing; for first responders; for doctors, nurses, therapists, and hospital staff.

Silence

Holy One, we pray for those who are pursuing violent agendas against our neighbors and families. We pray for those who are under attack. Help us to see how we can help and heal.

Silence

Holy One, we remember before you those who have died. May their memories be for a blessing.

Silence

Holy One, grant us imagination and energy to be part of your work in this place: help us today to choose justice, mercy, and peace.

Silence

Help us, Holy One; sustain us, fill us, and empower us to be the hands and feet of Christ today. Amen.

Benediction

Good people,

Most royal greening verdancy,

Rooted in the sun.

You shine with radiant light.

In this circle of earthly existence

You shine so finely,

It surpasses understanding.

God hugs you.

You are encircled by the arms

Of the mystery of God. -- *Hildegard of Bingen*