

Morning Prayer for February 2025

Opening Acclamation

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable unto you, O God, my rock and my redeemer.

Hymn of Praise

“On the Pulse of the Morning” *excerpt - Maya Angelou*

I, the Rock, I the River, I the Tree
I am yours — your passages have been paid.
Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need
For this bright morning dawning for you.
History, despite its wrenching pain
Cannot be unlived, but if faced
With courage, need not be lived again.
Lift up your eyes upon
This day breaking for you.
Give birth again
To the dream.
Here, on the pulse of this new day
You may have the grace to look up and out
And into your sister’s eyes, and into
Your brother’s face, your country
And say simply
Very simply
With hope —
Good morning.

Collect of the Day

Holy One, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose. We pray because of Jesus, who calls us to follow. Amen. (BCP)

Reading

Meditation

Prayers: Howard Thurman - adapted

“Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace.” Teach me how to order my days that with sure touch I may say the right word at the right time and in the right way — lest I betray the spirit of peace.

We pray to become proactive agents of peace.

Let me not be deceived by my own insecurity and weakness which would make me hurt another as I try desperately to help myself.

We pray to know and understand ourselves, and to grow toward our best selves for Your service.

Keep watch with me, O my God, over the days of my life, that with abiding enthusiasm I may be in such possession of myself that each day I may offer to Thee the full, unhampered use of me in all my parts as “an instrument of Thy Peace.”

As we answer your call, O God, teach us how to offer ourselves to the work of love. Amen.

Intercessions

We pray for those who are ill; for those undergoing treatment; for those whose days are growing short; for those who are caring for loved ones.

We pray for St. Paul’s and all our ministries; may our work here reflect your reign of justice and love.

We pray for our local, state, and national governments. Amplify the voices that speak for the vulnerable.

In all we do, amidst our hopes and fears, remind us of the healing power of gratitude and joy. We pray because of Jesus. Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

When day comes,

We step out of the shade of flame and unafraid,

The new dawn balloons, as we free it.

For there was always light.

If only we’re brave enough to see it.

If only we’re brave enough to be it. --- Amanda Gorman

Dismissal

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