

WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONS APRIL 6, 2022

READING MARK 13:1-8

1As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" 2Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

3When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 4Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished? 5Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. 6Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. 7When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. 8For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

SUFFRAGES

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.

I sing aloud a song of thanksgiving,
and recount all your wonderful deeds.

Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

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 forever. Amen.

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 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.**

Let us pray to the Lord, the God in heaven above and on the earth beneath.
A brief silence.

O Lord our God, show us your everlasting love,
that we may serve you from the obedience of our hearts.
Lead us in the way of your peace,
that our souls may be restored.
Fill our imaginations with the wonders of your creation,
that our minds may reflect your glory.
Guide us in the way of the cross,
that we might proclaim the strength of your love.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Additional prayers may be said.

The final prayer is one appropriate to the time of day or the occasion.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength. Keep these words in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorpost of your house.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Amen.

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