

First Reader: **A Reading From Malachi**

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: **Our Responsorial Psalm for today is Psalm 98.**
We will respond by whole-verse.

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, *
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 **With his right hand and his holy arm ***
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; *
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 **He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,**
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; *
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 **Sing to the LORD with the harp, ***
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 **Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, ***
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 **In righteousness shall he judge the world ***
and the peoples with equity.

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the LORD Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Form VI

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence.*

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: St. Mark's, Richmond; St. Mary's, West Columbia; St. Paul's, Freeport; and St. Thomas', Wharton. For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Andy, our Diocesan Bishop; Kai, Jeff, Hector, and Brian, our bishops; For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence; the People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence; the People may add thanksgivings silently or aloud.

We exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence; the People may add...

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Presider says a concluding Collect.