

First Reader: **A READING FROM GENESIS**

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: **Responding by whole verse:**

- 1 Bow down your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 **Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;
save your servant who puts his trust in you.**
- 3 Be merciful to me, O LORD, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 **Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.**
- 5 For you, O LORD, are good and forgiving,
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.
- 6 **Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer,
and attend to the voice of my supplications.**
- 7 In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.
- 8 **Among the gods there is none like you, O LORD,
nor anything like your works.**
- 9 All nations you have made will come and worship you, O LORD,
and glorify your Name.
- 10 **For you are great;
you do wondrous things;
and you alone are God.**
- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 **Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People:

Peace be with you, siblings in Christ. In wonder and gratitude, let us pray, saying,

“You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**”

Holy God, by your Spirit you gave birth to your Church: may our many members be the one Body of Christ in this world. Give to each member of your Church the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *Silence*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

Holy God, you have your disciples that ability to speak in the languages of the people: may we also speak about your deeds of power throughout the world, that all may know of your salvation. *Silence*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

Holy God, the earth is full of your creatures: may all who look to you be given food in due season. Open your hand in desolate places and fill the hungry with good things. *The congregation may add their thanksgivings, followed by silence.*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

Holy God, you poured out your Holy Spirit in your Holy City Jerusalem: pour out your Spirit in our own city. Raise up prophets and dreamers; give us vision. *Silence*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

Holy God, you give the gift of healing by your Spirit: bring healing and wholeness to all those on our hearts and minds this day. You renew the face of the earth; bring renewal to those in need. *The Congregation may add their petitions, followed by silence.*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

Holy God, we pray for our siblings in Christ who were baptized into the one body, who were made to drink of the one Spirit, and who now have died in Christ. May those who have called upon your name, O Lord, be saved forever. *Silence*

You send forth your Spirit: **Come Holy Spirit.**

The Celebrant concludes, adding a Collect.