

FROM PSALM 51

BCP p. 137

Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.
Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. *Amen.*

MATTHEW 10:40-42

THE MESSAGE (MSG)

⁴⁰⁻⁴² “We are intimately linked in this harvest work. Anyone who accepts what you do, accepts me, the One who sent you. Anyone who accepts what I do accepts my Father, who sent me. Accepting a messenger of God is as good as being God’s messenger. Accepting someone’s help is as good as giving someone help. This is a large work I’ve called you into, but don’t be overwhelmed by it. It’s best to start small. Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won’t lose out on a thing.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY

*Cheryl Smith, Director of Children & Family Ministries
(A period of silence may follow.)*

THE HAND PRAYER

**Open my ears to hear your word
Open my eyes to see your ways
Open my hands to show your love
Open my mouth to sing your praise
Open my heart to love you more.
Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT

BCP p. 137

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE BLESSING

Deep peace to you, my child, deep peace.
Peace in your body, peace in your mind, peace in your spirit.
As you breathe in deeply, breathe in peace.
May the worries in your mind seem far away.
May you know God's love for you, and your family's love too.
Deep, deep peace to you, my child, deep peace.
(Excerpt from Prayers for Faithful Families by Traci Smith)