

Southern Morning Prayer



*It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to
sing praises to your name, O Most High, to
declare your steadfast love in the morning.*

(Psalm 92.1-2)

Southern Morning Prayer

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While Southern Morning Prayer has a variety of lively songs that have a distinctive “Southern” flavor, They can also be sung in a slower style.

Sing the first verse slowly, then sing all three verses with a more lively beat.

About Southern Morning Prayer

Of the eight original canonical hours, three remain in common use in Protestant churches: Evening Prayer (originally called Vespers), Night Prayer (originally called Compline), and Morning Prayer (which is a combination of the original Matins, Lauds, and Prime). Each of the three services has elements that are peculiar to them.

Morning Prayer traditionally uses either the Benedictus (from Luke 1), or the Te Deum (a creedal prayer that dates to the fourth century). Southern Morning Prayer uses the Te Deum (“We praise you, God” on page 7). Portions of Psalm 51 (pages 2-3), and the Venite (based on Psalm 95, pages 5-6) are also traditional elements of Morning Prayer.

Southern Morning Prayer was written, recorded and revised from 2015—2018 by seminarians from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. While the composers, writers and artist listed below retain the rights to their work, they have given the body of Southern Morning Prayer to Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary of Lenoir-Rhyne University for use in perpetuity.

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Songs

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“Oh Lord, Open My Lips” — The words are based on Psalm 51.15. The adaptation of the words, and the melody are by Gary Dreier, © 2015. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

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Prayers and Blessing

“Have mercy on us . . .” — This prayer is based on Psalm 51, NRSV.

“We thank you through Jesus Christ. . .” — This prayer is Der Morgensegen from Luther’s Small Catechism. This pluralized translation is by Gary Dreier, © 2017. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

“May God be gracious to us . . .” — This blessing / prayer is based on Psalm 67, NRSV.

“Oh, God, we surrender . . .” — This anonymous prayer was adapted by Mary Sue Dreier, © 2017. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

“Our God has called us . . .” — This blessing is adopted from a prayer that is traditional to Morning Prayer.

Artwork

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Oh God,
we surrender to you all that we are and all that we have, to be totally and unconditionally yours. Take us away from ourselves and our preoccupation with ourselves. Fill us with your presence so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, Christ crucified and risen may be present in the world today through us, in whatever way you choose, when you choose, and with whom you choose. Your will be done. Amen.

Our God has called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils and joys unknown. Go out now in faith and with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that God's hand is leading us and God's love is supporting us.

We go out,
in the name of the Father + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Sing slowly.

Greet one another on your way back into the world.

As people leave, the musicians reprise an upbeat "My Lord What a Morning."

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquities, and cleanse me from my sins.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, I have sinned, and done what is evil in your sight.
You desire truth in the inward being; teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

O God, create in me a clean heart, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Silence for Self-reflection

Our God, who is always with us and whose love is everlasting,
 faithfully creates, renews, restores, sustains, and forgives us.

Amen.

4 C G C F C
 = measures 29-32 Oh Lord, o - pen my lips. Oh Lord, o - pen my lips. And my

F C Am D7 G
 mouth will de - clare your praise. Oh Lord, o - pen my lips.

C G C C7 F C
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and glo - ry be to the Son, and

F C Am D7 G
 glo - ry be to the Ho - ly Spi - rit. In my life may your will be done.

C G C F E
 Oh Lord, o - pen my heart. Oh Lord, o - pen my heart. And my

F C Am Dm G C
 life wil de - clare your praise. Oh Lord, o - pen my heart.

Dm G C Dm G C
 29 30 31 32
 Oh Lord, o - pen my lips. Oh Lord, o - pen my heart.

3 B E B A E
 = measures 2-4 Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be your name.

8 B E B A E B E
 Your king - dom come, your will be done on earth as in hea - ven.

13 A B E A B E A B
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we for - give those who

18 C#m B B7 E B A E
 sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial and de - li - ver us from e -

24 B E B A E
 - vil. For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours now and for - ev - er. A - men.

28 B C#m A E B C#m A E B E
 now and for - ev - er. A - men. now and for - ev - er. A - men.

bpm = 84



We praise you, God, we ac - claim you as Lord. All cre -
A - pos - tles, pro - phets, and white robed mar - tyrs, the
You took our flesh for to set us free, hum - bly
So come then, Lord, and your peo - ple help, pur - chased



a - tion wor - ships your name. The cher - u - bim and the
church their an - thems raise. Ma - jes - tic - Fa - ther and
chose the vir - gin's womb. The king - dom of hea - ven you
with your pre - cious blood. And bring us to glo - ry



ser - a - phim, all the pow'rs of hea - ven pro - claim:
your true Son with the Ho - ly Ghost we praise.
o - pened to all, o - ver came the sting of the tomb.
e - ver more, num - bered with the saints a bove.



Ho - ly, ho - ly! God of pow'r and might.



Heav'n and earth sing your glo - ry. Ho - ly is the Lord!

Other prayers may be offered.

Our heavenly Father,

we thank you through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you protected us last night from all harm and danger. And we ask that you would protect us today also, from sin and all evil, so that all our actions and life may please you. We commit ourselves – body and soul and all – into your hands. May your holy angel be with us so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and shine upon us!

May your way be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us.

Glory be to the Father + and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The selection above is from Psalm 67. Here are some other Psalm suggestions:

Psalm 5.1-3, 11-12

Psalm 65.1-13

Psalm 100

Psalm 59.16-17

Psalm 84.8-11

Psalm 143.1-8

Psalm 63.1-4

Psalm 92.1-5

Psalm 150

3 = measures 6-8

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord, let us shout for joy to the

rock of our sal-va-tion Hal - le - lu - iah, Hal - le - lu -
(Sing ho-san-na to the Lord!) (Sing ho-san-na to the

iah! Let us come be-fore God's pre-sence with thanks - gi - ving and raise a loud shout to the Lord!

Lord with Psalms, for you, O Lord, are a great God, a great ru-ler a - bove all

gods. In your hands are the ca-vern's of the earth and the heights of the

hills. The sea is yours for you made it and your hands have mold-ed the dry land. Oh

come, let us sing to the Lord, let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal-va-tion

Hal - le - lu - iah, Hal - le - lu - iah! Oh
(Sing ho-san-na to the Lord!) (Sing ho-san-na to the Lord!)

come, let us wor-ship and bow down let us kneel be-fore our ma-ker for the

Lord is our God and we are the peo-ple of God's pas-ture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh

come, let us sing to the Lord, let us shout for joy to the rock of our sal-va-tion

Hal - le - lu - iah, Hal - le - lu - ia
(Sing ho-san-na to the Lord!) (Sing ho-san-na to the Lord!)

Other selections from the Bible may be read.

Other songs may be sung.

A sermon may be given.