

Blessed with Hope – Hope for Today and for Eternity

Hope In The Book of Common Prayer

Wednesday 05 May 2021

6:30 PM-8:00 PM

Opening Prayer

Background

Other than the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer is our most important source of Christian teaching. In this session, we will explore what the BCP says about hope.

Morning Prayer

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Romans 15:13

Evening Prayer

A Collect for the Presence of Christ

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know thee as thou art revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of thy love. *Amen.*

Holy Eucharist – Prayer C

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:....

Prayers of the People Form I

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

Commemoration of the Dead

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victorious from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.

Psalm 46 *Deus noster refugium*

God is our hope and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, will we not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;....

The Catechism

Q. How are the sacraments related to our Christian hope?

A. Sacraments sustain our present hope and anticipate its future fulfillment.

Q. What is the Christian hope?

A. The Christian hope is to live with confidence in newness and fullness of life, and to await the coming of Christ in glory, and the completion of God's purpose for the world.

Questions to Consider

1. What do the selections from Morning and Evening Prayer suggest to you about Christian hope?
2. What was the hope of prophets, martyrs and apostles cited in Prayer C?

3. Faith and hope are mentioned together in Form I of the Prayers of the People. What might be the significance of that?
4. What is the meaning of everlasting life in the Commemoration of the Dead?
5. What does it mean that “God is our hope and strength?”
6. Explain what the Catechism statements about Christian hope mean to you.

Closing Prayer