

Morning Worships from the Theology Conference in Denmark

4 October, Wednesday

Anglican and Roman Catholic Prayer

The day of Saint Francis of Assisi

Born at Assisi in the year 1182. From being a light-hearted youth he changed, gave up his inheritance and bound himself to God, embracing poverty and living the life of the gospels. He preached to all the love of God. He gave to his followers wise rules which were approved by the Holy See. He laid foundations of an order of nuns, of groups of penitents living in the world, and of preaching the gospel to infidels. He died in the year 1226.

Making sign of cross – Invocation

Opening Prayer

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.
As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence lighten our hearts, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and forever. Amen

Confession: Kyrie eleison – Christe eleison – Kyrie eleison

Psalm 8

Song

Bible Reading: Mark 10,35?40

Intercessions – Response: God, in Your Grace, hear our prayer!

Prayer for the feast of St. Francis

Lord, God,
you made Saint Francis of Assisi
Christ-like in his poverty and humility.
Help us so to walk in his ways
that, with joy and love
we as follow Christ your Son,
and be united to you.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ
who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen

Lords Prayer (in our own languages)

Blessing

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in life eternal. Amen
Let us bless the Lord,
Thanks be to God. Amen

Making sign of cross – Invocation

5 October, Thursday

Orthodox Prayer

Making sign of cross – Invocation

Opening prayer: Heavenly King

Song: Agni Parthene (Greece)

Prayer: St. Gregory of Norek (Armenia): Psalm of the Sighing Heart 9

For Yours is salvation,
And from You is redemption,
And by Your right hand is restoration,
Your finger is invigoration,
Your command is justification,
Your mercy is liberation,
Your countenance is illumination,
Your face is exultation,
Your spirit is benefaction,
Your anointing oil is consolation,
A dew drop of Your grace is exhilaration,
You give comfort,
You make us forget despair,
You lift away the gloom of grief,
You change the sighs of the heart into laughter.
Forever and ever. Amen

Song (Church Slavonic)

Bible Reading: 1 Corinthians 13,1–13

Intercessions

Ter voghormya
Panie zmiluj sie nad nami
Gospodi Pomiluj
Kyrie eleison
Doamne milvieste
Lord, have mercy

Song: Sfinte Dumnezeule (Romania)

Making sign of cross – Invocation

7 October, Saturday

Reformed Prayer

Blessing: 1 Corinthians 1,3

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Song: Shine, Jesus, Shine

Bible Reading: Luke 18,18–23

A certain ruler asked him [Jesus], "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'" "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said. When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.

Song: O Lord, hear my prayer

Meditation

Let's look at the last verse. The Ruler became very sad and walked away. He asked Jesus what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. Jesus had given him the answer—he had to keep the commandments. The Ruler had followed the commandments from his childhood. Then Jesus said: If you really want this, you will have to give up everything. The ruler thinks and he asks himself: Can I do this? He comes to the conclusion that he cannot and he becomes sad and walks away. What do we do, when we feel God asks something impossible? God does seem to ask impossible things from us. But what is our reaction? Do we become sad and walk away? Or is there another way? Wouldn't it be the best way to turn to Jesus and to ask him: How, my lord? How should I do this, which seems impossible to me? Jesus says: What is impossible with men, is possible with God (Luke 18,27). God does not leave us alone to struggle in life. We can ask God to give us the strength to do what he asks us. God wants us to turn to Him, to pray and ask for the strength and the courage to do what he wants us to do. Let's not break the contact because we think it's impossible. Let us turn to Jesus and ask him to give us the possibility to do the impossible.

Song: Invitation Fountain

All who are weak,
All who are weary
Come to the rock,
Come to the fountain
All who have sailed

On the rivers of heartache
Come to the sea,
Come on be set free

Chorus

If You lead me Lord I will follow
Where You lead me Lord I will go
Come and heal me Lord I will follow
Where You lead me Lord I will go
I will go
I will go
All who are weak
All who are weary
All who are tired
All who are thirsty
All who have failed
All who have broken
Come to the rock
Come to the fountain

Chorus

Prayer: Ephesians 3,14–21

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen

Blessing: 2 Peter 3,18

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen