



January 29, 2011, 5 p.m.

**JERUSALEM WEEK OF PRAYER FOR UNITY
&
EXTRAORDINARY PRAYER OF ALL CHURCHES
FOR RECONCILIATION, UNITY AND PEACE
beginning in and proceeding from Jerusalem**

**Ethiopian Orthodox Church of Debere Genet Kiden Mehret
Jerusalem**

1. Welcome words by Abba Matthias

2. Opening Prayer (The Lord's Prayer and Hail Mary)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary

Hail, Mother of the almighty God, peace be with you. You are the Virgin of God, in thinking and in doing (in your thoughts and in your body). You are blessed among all women and Jesus, the fruit of your womb, is blessed. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray and beseech for us to your beloved Son, so He may forgive us our sins.

3. Psalm 136, 1-26

Psalm 136

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. *His love endures forever.* ² Give thanks to the God of gods. *His love endures forever.* ³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords: *His love endures forever.* ⁴ to him who alone does great wonders, *His love endures forever.* ⁵ who by his understanding made the heavens, *His love endures forever.* ⁶ who spread out the earth upon the waters, *His love endures forever.* ⁷ who made the great lights— *His love endures forever.* ⁸ the sun to govern the day, *His love endures forever.* ⁹ the moon and stars to govern the night; *His love endures forever.* ¹⁰ to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt *His love endures forever.* ¹¹ and brought Israel out from among them *His love endures forever.* ¹² with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; *His love endures forever.* ¹³ to him who divided the Red Sea^[a]

asunder *His love endures forever.* ¹⁴ and brought Israel through the midst of it, *His love endures forever.* ¹⁵ but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; *His love endures forever.* ¹⁶ to him who led his people through the wilderness; *His love endures forever.* ¹⁷ to him who struck down great kings, *His love endures forever.* ¹⁸ and killed mighty kings— *His love endures forever.*

¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites *His love endures forever.* ²⁰ and Og king of Bashan— *His love endures forever.*

²¹ and gave their land as an inheritance, *His love endures forever.* ²² an inheritance to his servant Israel. *His love endures forever.* ²³ He remembered us in our low estate *His love endures forever.* ²⁴ and freed us from our enemies. *His love endures forever.* ²⁵ He gives food to every creature. *His love endures forever.* ²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven. *His love endures forever.*

4. Daily praise of Mary (“Woud Dazi Marem”)

Homely of St (Mar) Ephrem

O pure and immaculate and likewise blessed Virgin, who art the sinless Mother of thy Son, the mighty Lord of the universe, thou who art inviolate and altogether holy, the hope of the hopeless and sinful, we sing thy praises. We bless thee, as full of every grace, thou who didst bear the God-Man: we all bow low before thee; we invoke thee and implore thine aid. Rescue us, O holy and inviolate Virgin, from every necessity that presses upon us and from all the temptations of the devil. Be our intercessor and advocate at the hour of death and judgement; deliver us from the fire that is not extinguished and from the outer darkness; make us worthy of the glory of thy Son, O dearest and most clement Virgin Mother. Thou indeed art our only hope, most sure and sacred in God's sight, to whom be honor and glory, majesty and dominion, for ever and ever, world without end. Amen.

5. Prayer “Save us, your people”

Typical Ethiopian prayer inspired from the Psalms: request for strength and comfort
Save us, Save us, and all your nation.

At the end, all monks together:

Don't abandon us (3 x); O Mary, look upon us (3x); Our Lady, look at us (3x)

6. Hymn - For the sake of the Church

Celebrant: Alleluia

One monk: Alleluia

All monks: Jesus Christ, you came and you were crucified for the Church. You were beaten and you suffered for us. We beseech you to save us.

7. Daily Vespers - Evening prayer chant

Psalms 130-136

Psalm 130

A song of ascents.

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD; ² Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. ³ If you, LORD, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. ⁵ I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. ⁶ I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. ⁷ Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. ⁸ He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

Psalm 131

A song of ascents. Of David.

¹ My heart is not proud, LORD, my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me. ² But I have calmed and quieted myself, I am like a weaned child with its mother; like a weaned child I am content. ³ Israel, put your hope in the LORD both now and forevermore.

Psalm 132

A song of ascents.

¹ LORD, remember David and all his self-denial. ² He swore an oath to the LORD, he made a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob: ³ "I will not enter my house or go to my bed, ⁴ I will allow no sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, ⁵ till I find a place for the LORD, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob." ⁶ We heard it in Ephrathah, we came upon it in the fields of Jaar: ⁷ "Let us go to his dwelling place, let us worship at his footstool, saying, ⁸ 'Arise, LORD, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. ⁹ May your priests be clothed with your righteousness; may your faithful people sing for joy.'" ¹⁰ For the sake of your servant David, do not reject your anointed one. ¹¹ The LORD swore an oath to David, a sure oath he will not revoke: "One of your own descendants I will place on your throne. ¹² If your sons keep my covenant and the statutes I teach them, then their sons will sit on your throne for ever and ever." ¹³ For the LORD has chosen Zion, he has desired it for his dwelling, saying, ¹⁴ "This is my resting place for ever and ever; here I will sit enthroned, for I have desired it. ¹⁵ I will bless her with abundant provisions; her poor I will satisfy with food. ¹⁶ I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her faithful people will ever sing for joy. ¹⁷ "Here I will make a horn grow for David and set up a lamp for my anointed one. ¹⁸ I will clothe his enemies with shame, but his head will be adorned with a radiant crown."

Psalm 133

A song of ascents. Of David.

¹ How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! ² It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on

Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. ³ It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

Psalm 134

A song of ascents.

¹ Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD. ² Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD. ³ May the LORD bless you from Zion, he who is the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 135

¹ Praise the LORD. Praise the name of the LORD; praise him, you servants of the LORD, ² you who minister in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God. ³ Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant. ⁴ For the LORD has chosen Jacob to be his own, Israel to be his treasured possession. ⁵ I know that the LORD is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods. ⁶ The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths. ⁷ He makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth; he sends lightning with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses. ⁸ He struck down the firstborn of Egypt, the firstborn of people and animals. ⁹ He sent his signs and wonders into your midst, Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants. ¹⁰ He struck down many nations and killed mighty kings— ¹¹ Sihon king of the Amorites, Og king of Bashan, and all the kings of Canaan— ¹² and he gave their land as an inheritance, an inheritance to his people Israel. ¹³ Your name, LORD, endures forever, your renown, LORD, through all generations. ¹⁴ For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants. ¹⁵ The idols of the nations are silver and gold, made by human hands. ¹⁶ They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see. ¹⁷ They have ears, but cannot hear, nor is there breath in their mouths. ¹⁸ Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them. ¹⁹ All you Israelites, praise the LORD; house of Aaron, praise the LORD; ²⁰ house of Levi, praise the LORD; you who fear him, praise the LORD. ²¹ Praise be to the LORD from Zion, to him who dwells in Jerusalem.

Praise the LORD.

Psalm 136

¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. *His love endures forever.*
² Give thanks to the God of gods. *His love endures forever.*
³ Give thanks to the Lord of lords: *His love endures forever.*
⁴ to him who alone does great wonders, *His love endures forever.*
⁵ who by his understanding made the heavens, *His love endures forever.*
⁶ who spread out the earth upon the waters, *His love endures forever.*
⁷ who made the great lights— *His love endures forever.*
⁸ the sun to govern the day, *His love endures forever.*
⁹ the moon and stars to govern the night; *His love endures forever.*

- ¹⁰ to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, *His love endures forever.*
¹¹ and brought Israel out from among them, *His love endures forever.*
¹² with a mighty hand and outstretched arm; *His love endures forever.*
¹³ to him who divided the Red Sea asunder, *His love endures forever.*
¹⁴ and brought Israel through the midst of it, *His love endures forever.*
¹⁵ but swept Pharaoh and his army into the Red Sea; *His love endures forever.*
¹⁶ to him who led his people through the wilderness; *His love endures forever.*
¹⁷ to him who struck down great kings, *His love endures forever.*
¹⁸ and killed mighty kings— *His love endures forever.*
¹⁹ Sihon king of the Amorites, *His love endures forever.*
²⁰ and Og king of Bashan— *His love endures forever.*
²¹ and gave their land as an inheritance, *His love endures forever.*
²² an inheritance to his servant Israel. *His love endures forever.*
²³ He remembered us in our low estate, *His love endures forever.*
²⁴ and freed us from our enemies. *His love endures forever.*
²⁵ He gives food to every creature. *His love endures forever.*
²⁶ Give thanks to the God of heaven. *His love endures forever.*

Prayer for help and Peace

O Archangel Michael, beseech for us so that we may be delivered from evil, come to us to comfort us (*the same is repeated invoking other angels, St George, Saint Mary*)

O Christ, have mercy of us.

The Peace of the Father, of the Son, of the Holy Spirit may be with all of you.

The Peace of Mary may be with all of you.

Evening litany

O our God, who dwells above the Cherubin, deliver our feet from sleepery, our eyes from tears, our souls from the second death (etc.).

Evening Covenant prayer (“Kidan” or Trisagion)

Priest: The Grace of God be with you

People: And with thy spirit.

Priest: Give ye thanks unto our God.

People: It is right, it is just.

Priest: O immortal Father, Saviour of our soul, the foundation of wisdom, keeper of our hearts, thou hast granted light to our inward eyes and covered us with thy knowledge against the darkness of our mind. Thou didst save the first man, who was given to destruction, by the cross of thy Only-begotten, and didst renew him by the immortal things. Iniquities vanished through thy commandment, and thou didst make redemption through the death of thy Son and didst search for the lost one. For this reason we, thy servants, glorify thee, O Lord.

People: We glorify thee, O Lord.

Priest: We praise thee, O Lord, with glorious song, thou whom the archangels always glorify, unceasingly and without rest, and whom the lords praise singing with the praise of glory and thanksgiving. O Lord, thou hast sent thy counsel, thy Word, thy Wisdom and thy visitation, which was with thee before the world began, without being created, who appeared in flesh for the salvation of mankind. Thy beloved Son, our Lord Jesus, hath set us free from the yoke of sin. For this reason, we, thy servants, praise thee, O Lord.

People: We praise thee, O Lord.

Priest: From our heart we offer to thee thrice over praise, O Lord, giver of life. Thou didst visit the soul of the humble and didst not despise the troubled soul. Thou didst accept the persecuted and help them, thou thinkest of the hungry and avenges those against whom sin was committed. Thou art the friend of the faithful, speaker to the righteous, dwelling-place for the pure; thou hearest those who call upon thee in righteousness, protectest the widow, savest the orphan, grandest right leadership to the church which thou hast made a dwelling-place of the glorious faith, the council of the Spirit, the gift of grace and power. While we praise thee without rest we know in our hearts thy kingdom which was declared unto us by thee and thy beloved Son, our Lord Jesus, though whom be glory and dominion to thee, world without end.

People: Amen.

8. **Reading : Revelation 14, 6-8** (*in classical Armenian*)

The Three Angels

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

⁸ A second angel followed and said, “‘Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great,’^[a] which made all the nations drink the maddening wine of her adulteries.”

9. **Reading : 1 Kings, 3-9** (*in Aramaic*)

Elijah Flees to Horeb

³ Elijah was afraid^[a] and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, LORD,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.” ⁵ Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.”⁶ He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

⁷ The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.”⁸ So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.⁹ There he went into a cave and spent the night.

10. Reading : Acts 10, 1-8 (in Latin or German)

Cornelius Calls for Peter

¹ At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. ² He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. ³ One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!”

⁴ Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked.

The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. ⁵ Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. ⁶ He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea.”

⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. ⁸ He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.

11. Reading: 1 Chronicles 4, 9-11

Other Clans of Judah

⁹ Jabez was more honorable than his brothers. His mother had named him Jabez,^[c] saying, “I gave birth to him in pain.” ¹⁰ Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, “Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain.” And God granted his request.

¹¹ Kelub, Shuhah’s brother, was the father of Mehir, who was the father of Eshton.

12. Hymn before the Gospel (from the Psalm 102)

From Psalm 102, “Prayer of an afflicted person who has grown weak and pours out a lament before the LORD” (3 times)

¹ Hear my prayer, LORD;

let my cry for help come to you.

² Do not hide your face from me
when I am in distress.

Turn your ear to me;

when I call, answer me quickly.

13. Holy Gospel: Luke 18, 1-8 (in Amharic and in Arabic)

The Parable of the Persistent Widow

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

⁴ "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

14. Hymn of Repentance (by Sunday School members)

O Lord, in your kindness, keep us, forgive us, have mercy upon us, deliver us from evil, keep our country (*etc.*)

15. The Lord's prayer & Hail Mary (everyone in his own language)

The Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary

Hail, Mother of the almighty God, peace be with you. You are the Virgin of God, in thinking and in doing (in your thoughts and in your body). You are blessed among all women and Jesus, the fruit of your womb, is blessed. Hail Mary, Mother of God, pray and beseech for us to your beloved Son, so He may forgive us our sins.

16. Final blessing

Ethiopian Blessing by Abba Matthias:

O Lord, save your people, and bless your inheritance. Preserve them for ever and ever. Keep your Holy Church that you redeemed with your blood, by your Son's holy blood. You called her to be the dwelling place, the house of kings and of all your innocent and holy people, who came and gathered here and who took His body and His blood. May He bless you all. (*three times*)

Blessing by other Church leaders

17. Greeting and dismissal