

## ☩ Morning Prayer on Wednesday

Wednesday, 5 August 2020

Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642 [Lesser Festival]

### Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

[a prayer of thanksgiving \(page 109\)](#),

a suitable hymn,

or A Song of God's Glorious Name

1 O Lord our governor, <sup>□</sup>

how glorious is your name in all the world!

2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised <sup>□</sup>

out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, <sup>□</sup>

that you might still the enemy and the avenger.

4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, <sup>□</sup>

the moon and the stars that you have ordained,

5 What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them; <sup>□</sup>

mere human beings, that you should seek them out?

6 You have made them little lower than the angels <sup>□</sup>

and crown them with glory and honour.

7 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands <sup>□</sup>

and put all things under their feet,

8 All sheep and oxen, <sup>□</sup>

even the wild beasts of the field,

9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea <sup>□</sup>

and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

100 Lord our governor, ☐

how glorious is your name in all the world!

Psalm 8

All Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever. Amen.

This opening prayer may be said

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;

let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,

so may the light of your presence, O God,

set our hearts on fire with love for you;

now and for ever.

All Amen.

## **The Word of God**

### **Psalmody**

The appointed psalmody is said.

### **Psalm 34**

Refrain: O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; ☐

his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 My soul shall glory in the Lord; ☐

let the humble hear and be glad.

3 O magnify the Lord with me; □

let us exalt his name together.

4 I sought the Lord and he answered me □

and delivered me from all my fears.

5 Look upon him and be radiant □

and your faces shall not be ashamed. R

6 This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me □

and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him □

and delivers them.

8 O taste and see that the Lord is gracious; □

blessed is the one who trusts in him.

9 Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones, □

for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 Lions may lack and suffer hunger, □

but those who seek the Lord

lack nothing that is good. R

11 Come, my children, and listen to me; □

I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is there who delights in life □

and longs for days to enjoy good things?

13 Keep your tongue from evil □

and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; □

seek peace and pursue it. R

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous □

and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, □

to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry and the Lord hears them □

and delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit. R

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous;  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.

20 He keeps all their bones,  
so that not one of them is broken.

21 But evil shall slay the wicked  
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants  
and will condemn none who seek refuge in him.

Refrain: O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

Send your holy angels  
to watch over us, O God,  
that on our lips will be found your truth  
and in our hearts your love;  
so we may ever taste your goodness  
in the land of the living;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

All Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

## **1 Samuel 16**

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord." Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his

sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Now the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord tormented him. And Saul's servants said to him, 'See now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. Let our lord now command the servants who attend you to look for someone who is skilful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will feel better.' So Saul said to his servants, 'Provide for me someone who can play well, and bring him to me.' One of the young men answered, 'I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skilful in playing, a man of valour, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the Lord is with him.' So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, 'Send me your son David who is with the sheep.' Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armour-bearer. Saul sent to Jesse, saying, 'Let David remain in my service, for he has found favour in my sight.' And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

## Canticle

A Song of the Word of the Lord, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 35 \(page 586\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon. Alleluia.

1 Seek the Lord while he may be found,  
call upon him while he is near;

2 Let the wicked abandon their ways,  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

3 Return to the Lord, who will have mercy;  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

4 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

5 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

6'As the rain and the snow come down from above, □  
and return not again but water the earth,

7'Bringing forth life and giving growth, □  
seed for sowing and bread to eat,

8'So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; □  
it will not return to me fruitless,

9'But it will accomplish that which I purpose, □  
and succeed in the task I gave it.'

Isaiah 55.6-11

AllGlory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.

AllReturn to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon. Alleluia.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.

## Luke 23.44-56a

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Now there was a good and righteous man named Joseph, who, though a member of the council, had not agreed to their plan and action. He came from the Jewish town of Arimathea, and he was waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down, wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the sabbath was beginning. The

women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and they saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments.

A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel

and afterwards receive me with glory.

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel

and afterwards receive me with glory.

For I am always with you;

you hold me by my right hand.

All And afterwards receive me with glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel

and afterwards receive me with glory.

from Psalm 73

## Gospel Cantic

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,

or [A Song of Redemption \(page 620\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, □

who has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, □

born of the house of his servant David.

3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old □

to save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all that hate us,

4 To show mercy to our ancestors, □

and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: □

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear, □

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, □

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation □

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God □

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, □

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

All Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever. Amen.

Refrain:

All Blessed are those who are persecuted for the cause of right,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

## Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ for the day and its tasks

¶ for the world and its needs

¶ for the Church and her life

Prayers may include the following concerns from the [cycle on pages 362–363](#)

¶ The social services

¶ All who work in the criminal justice system

¶ Victims and perpetrators of crime

¶



The work of aid agencies throughout the world

¶ Those living in poverty or under oppression

One of the forms of prayer found [on pages 362–371](#) may be used.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Lord God almighty,

who so kindled the faith of King Oswald with your Spirit

that he set up the sign of the cross in his kingdom

and turned his people to the light of Christ:

grant that we, being fired by the same Spirit,

may always bear our cross before the world

and be found faithful servants of the gospel;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

AllOur 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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours

now and for ever.

Amen.

(or)

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All 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,

the power and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

## The Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,

and keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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