

## ☩ Morning Prayer on Wednesday

**Wednesday, 9 June 2021**

**Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597 [Lesser Festival]**

**Ephrem of Syria, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Teacher of the Faith, 373 [Commemoration]**

### 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  
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

10 O 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<sup>□</sup>  
and delivered me from all my fears.

5 Look upon him and be radiant<sup>□</sup>  
and your faces shall not be ashamed. R

6 This poor soul cried, and the Lord heard me<sup>□</sup>  
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him<sup>□</sup>  
and delivers them.

8 O taste and see that the Lord is gracious;<sup>□</sup>  
blessed is the one who trusts in him.

9 Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones,<sup>□</sup>  
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 Lions may lack and suffer hunger,<sup>□</sup>  
but those who seek the Lord  
lack nothing that is good. R

11 Come, my children, and listen to me;<sup>□</sup>  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is there who delights in life<sup>□</sup>  
and longs for days to enjoy good things?

13 Keep your tongue from evil<sup>□</sup>  
and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good;<sup>□</sup>  
seek peace and pursue it. R

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous<sup>□</sup>  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,<sup>□</sup>  
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry and the Lord hears them<sup>□</sup>  
and delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted<sup>□</sup>  
and will save those who are crushed in spirit. R

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous;<sup>□</sup>  
from them all will the Lord deliver them.

20 He keeps all their bones,<sup>□</sup>  
so that not one of them is broken.

21 But evil shall slay the wicked<sup>□</sup>  
and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants<sup>□</sup>  
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.

## **Job 15**

Then Eliphaz the Temanite answered:

‘Should the wise answer with windy knowledge,  
and fill themselves with the east wind?

Should they argue in unprofitable talk,

or in words with which they can do no good?

But you are doing away with the fear of God,

and hindering meditation before God.

For your iniquity teaches your mouth,

and you choose the tongue of the crafty.

Your own mouth condemns you, and not I;

your own lips testify against you.

'Are you the firstborn of the human race?

Were you brought forth before the hills?

Have you listened in the council of God?

And do you limit wisdom to yourself?

What do you know that we do not know?

What do you understand that is not clear to us?

The grey-haired and the aged are on our side,

those older than your father.

Are the consolations of God too small for you,

or the word that deals gently with you?

Why does your heart carry you away,

and why do your eyes flash,

so that you turn your spirit against God,

and let such words go out of your mouth?

What are mortals, that they can be clean?

Or those born of woman, that they can be righteous?

God puts no trust even in his holy ones,

and the heavens are not clean in his sight;

how much less one who is abominable and corrupt,

one who drinks iniquity like water!

'I will show you; listen to me;

what I have seen I will declare—

what sages have told,

and their ancestors have not hidden,

to whom alone the land was given,

and no stranger passed among them.

The wicked writhe in pain all their days,

through all the years that are laid up for the ruthless.

Terrifying sounds are in their ears;  
in prosperity the destroyer will come upon them.  
They despair of returning from darkness,  
and they are destined for the sword.  
They wander abroad for bread, saying, "Where is it?"  
They know that a day of darkness is ready at hand;  
distress and anguish terrify them;  
they prevail against them, like a king prepared for battle.  
Because they stretched out their hands against God,  
and bid defiance to the Almighty,  
running stubbornly against him  
with a thick-bossed shield;  
because they have covered their faces with their fat,  
and gathered fat upon their loins,  
they will live in desolate cities,  
in houses that no one should inhabit,  
houses destined to become heaps of ruins;  
they will not be rich, and their wealth will not endure,  
nor will they strike root in the earth;  
they will not escape from darkness;  
the flame will dry up their shoots,  
and their blossom will be swept away by the wind.  
Let them not trust in emptiness, deceiving themselves;  
for emptiness will be their recompense.  
It will be paid in full before their time,  
and their branch will not be green.  
They will shake off their unripe grape, like the vine,  
and cast off their blossoms, like the olive tree.  
For the company of the godless is barren,  
and fire consumes the tents of bribery.  
They conceive mischief and bring forth evil  
and their heart prepares deceit.'

## 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.

1 Seek the Lord while he may be found,<sup>□</sup>  
call upon him while he is near;

2 Let the wicked abandon their ways,<sup>□</sup>  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

3 Return to the Lord, who will have mercy;<sup>□</sup>  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

4 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts,<sup>□</sup>  
neither are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

5 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth,<sup>□</sup>  
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,<sup>□</sup>  
and return not again but water the earth,

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

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

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

Isaiah 55.6-11

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.

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

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## **Romans 8.1-11**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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 Christ gave them as a light to the nations



that his salvation might reach to the ends of the earth.

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 Christ gave them as a light to the nations

that his salvation might reach to the ends of the earth.

## 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

Almighty God,  
who filled the heart of Columba  
with the joy of the Holy Spirit  
and with deep love for those in his care:  
may your pilgrim people follow him,  
strong in faith, sustained by hope,  
and one in the love that binds us to you;  
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

AllOur 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.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord.

AllThanks be to God.

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