

☩ Morning Prayer on Friday

Friday, 23 July 2021

Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373 [Commemoration]

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

[The Acclamation of Christ at the Dawning of the Day \(page 108\)](#) may replace the Preparation as the start of Morning Prayer on any occasion.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

One of these prayers of thanksgiving (page 109),

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

You founded the earth in the beginning

and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,

and in these last days you have spoken to us

in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us

let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,

your Spirit ever renew our lives

and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

(or)

Blessed are you, creator of all,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As your dawn renews the face of the earth

bringing light and life to all creation,

may we rejoice in this day you have made;

as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,

open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

after Lancelot Andrewes (1626)

or a suitable hymn,

or the Venite – A Song of Triumph

1 O come, let us sing to the Lord; □

let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving □

and be glad in him with psalms.

3 For the Lord is a great God □

and a great king above all gods.

4 In his hand are the depths of the earth □

and the heights of the mountains are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it, □

and his hands have moulded the dry land.

6 Come, let us worship and bow down □

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For he is our God; □

we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

The canticle may end here.

8 O that today you would listen to his voice: □

‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

on that day at Massah in the wilderness,

9 ‘When your forebears tested me, and put me to the proof, □

though they had seen my works.

10 ‘Forty years long I detested that generation and said, □

“This people are wayward in their hearts;

they do not know my ways.”

11'So I swore in my wrath, □

"They shall not enter into my rest."

Psalm 95

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.

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.

AllAmen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 17

Refrain: Deliver me, O Lord, by your hand.

1 Hear my just cause, O Lord; consider my complaint; □

listen to my prayer, which comes not from lying lips.

2 Let my vindication come forth from your presence; □

let your eyes behold what is right.

3 Weigh my heart, examine me by night, □

refine me, and you will find no impurity in me. R

4 My mouth does not trespass for earthly rewards; □

I have heeded the words of your lips.

5 My footsteps hold fast in the ways of your commandments; [□]
my feet have not stumbled in your paths. R

6 I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; [□]
incline your ear to me, and listen to my words.

7 Show me your marvellous loving-kindness, [□]
O Saviour of those who take refuge at your right hand
from those who rise up against them.

8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; [□]
hide me under the shadow of your wings,

9 From the wicked who assault me, [□]
from my enemies who surround me to take away my life. R

10 They have closed their heart to pity [□]
and their mouth speaks proud things.

11 They press me hard, they surround me on every side, [□]
watching how they may cast me to the ground,

12 Like a lion that is greedy for its prey, [□]
like a young lion lurking in secret places. R

13 Arise, Lord; confront them and cast them down; [□]
deliver me from the wicked by your sword.

14 Deliver me, O Lord, by your hand [□]
from those whose portion in life is unending,

15 Whose bellies you fill with your treasure, [□]
who are well supplied with children
and leave their wealth to their little ones.

16 As for me, I shall see your face in righteousness; [□]
when I awake and behold your likeness, I shall be satisfied.

Refrain: Deliver me, O Lord, by your hand.

Generous Lord,
deliver us from all envious thoughts,

and when we are tempted by the desire for wealth,
let us see your face;
for your abundance is enough to clothe our lack;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 19

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God[□]
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2 One day pours out its song to another[□]
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

3 They have neither speech nor language[□]
and their voices are not heard,

4 Yet their sound has gone out into all lands[□]
and their words to the ends of the world.

5 In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun,[□]
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

6 It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again,[□]
and there is nothing hidden from its heat. R

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;[□]
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;[□]
the commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;[□]
the judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold,[□]

sweeter also than honey,

dripping from the honeycomb

11 By them also is your servant taught □

and in keeping them there is great reward. R

12 Who can tell how often they offend? □

O cleanse me from my secret faults!

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins

lest they get dominion over me; □

so shall I be undefiled,

and innocent of great offence.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable in your sight, □

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure

and gives light to the eyes.

Christ, the sun of righteousness,

rise in our hearts this day,

enfold us in the brightness of your love

and bear us at the last to heaven's horizon;

for your love's sake.

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.

Ezekiel 20.21-38

But the children rebelled against me; they did not follow my statutes, and were not careful to observe my ordinances, by whose observance everyone shall live; they profaned my sabbaths.

Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them and spend my anger against them in the wilderness. But I withheld my hand, and acted for the sake of my name, so that it should not be profaned in the sight of the nations, in whose sight I had brought them out. Moreover, I swore to them in the wilderness that I would scatter them among the nations and disperse them through the countries, because they had not executed my ordinances, but had rejected my statutes and profaned my sabbaths, and their eyes were set on their ancestors' idols. Moreover, I gave them statutes that were not good and ordinances by which they

could not live. I defiled them through their very gifts, in their offering up all their firstborn, in order that I might horrify them, so that they might know that I am the Lord.

Therefore, mortal, speak to the house of Israel and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: In this again your ancestors blasphemed me, by dealing treacherously with me. For when I had brought them into the land that I swore to give them, then wherever they saw any high hill or any leafy tree, there they offered their sacrifices and presented the provocation of their offering; there they sent up their pleasing odours, and there they poured out their drink-offerings. (I said to them, What is the high place to which you go? So it is called Bamah to this day.) Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: Will you defile yourselves after the manner of your ancestors and go astray after their detestable things? When you offer your gifts and make your children pass through the fire, you defile yourselves with all your idols to this day. And shall I be consulted by you, O house of Israel? As I live, says the Lord God, I will not be consulted by you.

What is in your mind shall never happen—the thought, ‘Let us be like the nations, like the tribes of the countries, and worship wood and stone.’

As I live, says the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out, I will be king over you. I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out; and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgement with you face to face. As I entered into judgement with your ancestors in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgement with you, says the Lord God. I will make you pass under the staff, and will bring you within the bond of the covenant. I will purge out the rebels among you, and those who transgress against me; I will bring them out of the land where they reside as aliens, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord.

Canticle

A Song of Humility, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 33 \(page 584\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Raise us up, O God,
that we may live in your presence.

1 Come, let us return to the Lord
who has torn us and will heal us.

2 God has stricken us
and will bind up our wounds.

3 After two days, he will revive us,
and on the third day will raise us up,
that we may live in his presence.

4 Let us strive to know the Lord;
his appearing is as sure as the sunrise.

5 He will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.

6'O Ephraim, how shall I deal with you? [□]

How shall I deal with you, O Judah?

7>Your love for me is like the morning mist, [□]

like the dew that goes early away.

8'Therefore, I have hewn them by the prophets, [□]

and my judgement goes forth as the light.

9'For loyalty is my desire and not sacrifice, [□]

and the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. '

Hosea 6.1-6

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.

AllRaise us up, O God,

that we may live in your presence.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

James 1.1-11

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing.

If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

Let the believer who is lowly boast in being raised up, and the rich in being brought low, because the rich will disappear like a flower in the field. For the sun rises

with its scorching heat and withers the field; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. It is the same with the rich; in the midst of a busy life, they will wither away.

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

Forsake me not, O Lord;

be not far from me, O my God.

AllForsake me not, O Lord;

be not far from me, O my God.

Make haste to help me,

O Lord of my salvation.

AllBe not far from me, O my God.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

AllForsake me not, O Lord;

be not far from me, O my God.

from Psalm 38

Gospel Cantic

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

or [A Song of Praise \(page 627\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllGive your people knowledge of salvation, O God,

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

1Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, □

who has come to his people and set them free.

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

born of the house of his servant David.

3Through his holy prophets God promised of old □

to save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all that hate us,

4To show mercy to our ancestors, □

and to remember his holy covenant.

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

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6Free to worship him without fear, [□]

holy and righteous in his sight

all the days of our life.

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

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

8To give his people knowledge of salvation [□]

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9In the tender compassion of our God [□]

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To 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

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.

Refrain:

AllGive your people knowledge of salvation, O God,

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

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 Queen, members of parliament and the armed forces

¶ Peace and justice in the world

¶ Those who work for reconciliation

¶ All whose lives are devastated by war and civil strife

¶ Prisoners, refugees and homeless people

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 of all power and might,

the author and giver of all good things:

graft in our hearts the love of your name,

increase in us true religion,

nourish us with all goodness,

and of your great mercy keep us in the same;

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.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All 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.

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.

All Thanks be to God.

© The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2005

Official Common Worship apps, books and eBooks are available from [Church House Publishing](#).

The Bible readings (other than the psalms) are from *The New Revised Standard Version Anglicized Edition*, copyright 1989, 1995 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Implemented by Simon Kershaw at [Crucix](#).

Implementation copyright © Simon Kershaw, 2002-2021.

[View other services](#)

[Copy to clipboard](#)

[Back to top](#)

Source URL: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/morning-prayer-contemporary-friday-23-july-2021>

