Evening Prayer on Friday

Friday, 23 July 2021

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

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
AllO Lord, make haste to help us.

The Blessing of Light (page 110) may replace the Preparation at Evening Prayer on any occasion.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

A prayer of thanksgiving (page 110),
Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As darkness falls you renew your promise
to reveal among us the light of your presence.
By the light of Christ, your living Word,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
that we may walk as children of light
and sing your praise throughout the world.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
AllBlessed be God for ever.

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of Entreaty

1Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.

2Enter not into judgement with your servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

3My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.  

4I stretch out my hands to you; my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.

5O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;  
hide not your face from me  
lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.

6Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,  
for in you I put my trust;  
show me the way I should walk in,  
for I lift up my soul to you.

7Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;  
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.

8Revive me, O Lord, for your name’s sake;  
for your righteousness’ sake, bring me out of trouble.

Psalm 143.1, 2, 4, 6-8, 10, 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.

This opening prayer may be said

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us  
to cleanse our hearts  
and set us free to sing your praise  
now and for ever.  
AllAmen.

The Word of God
Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 22

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me, □
and are so far from my salvation,
from the words of my distress?

2 O my God, I cry in the daytime,
but you do not answer; □
and by night also, but I find no rest.

3 Yet you are the Holy One, □
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

4 Our forebears trusted in you, □
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5 They cried out to you and were delivered; □
they put their trust in you and were not confounded. R

6 But as for me, I am a worm and no man, □
scorned by all and despised by the people.

7 All who see me laugh me to scorn; □
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

8 ‘He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him; □
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.’

9 But it is you that took me out of the womb □
and laid me safe upon my mother’s breast.

10 On you was I cast ever since I was born; □
you are my God even from my mother’s womb.

11 Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand □
and there is none to help. R

12 Mighty oxen come around me; □
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.

13 They gape upon me with their mouths, 
as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.

14 I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint;
my heart has become like wax
melting in the depths of my body.

15 My mouth is dried up like a potsherd;
my tongue cleaves to my gums;
you have laid me in the dust of death.

16 For the hounds are all about me;
the pack of evildoers close in on me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.

17 I can count all my bones;
they stand staring and looking upon me.

18 They divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.

19 Be not far from me, O Lord;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

20 Deliver my soul from the sword,
my poor life from the power of the dog.

21 Save me from the lion's mouth,
from the horns of wild oxen.
You have answered me!

22 I will tell of your name to my people;
in the midst of the congregation will I praise you.

23 Praise the Lord, you that fear him;
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.
24 For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his face from them;
but when they cried to him he heard them.

25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
I will perform my vows
in the presence of those that fear you.

26 The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever. R

27 All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

28 For the kingdom is the Lord's
and he rules over the nations.

29 How can those who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship, or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

30 He has saved my life for himself;
my descendants shall serve him;
this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

31 They shall come and make known his salvation,
to a people yet unborn,
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

Restless with grief and fear,
the abandoned turn to you:
in every hour of trial,
good Lord, deliver us,
O God most holy, God most strong,
whose wisdom is the cross of Christ.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

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.

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

1 Samuel 13.5-18

The Philistines mustered to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and troops like the sand on the seashore in multitude; they came up and encamped at Michmash, to the east of Beth-aven. When the Israelites saw that they were in distress (for the troops were hard pressed), the people hid themselves in caves and in holes and in rocks and in tombs and in cisterns. Some Hebrews crossed the Jordan to the land of Gad and Gilead. Saul was still at Gilgal, and all the people followed him trembling.

He waited for seven days, the time appointed by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people began to slip away from Saul. So Saul said, ‘Bring the burnt-offering here to me, and the offerings of well-being.’ And he offered the burnt-offering. As soon as he had finished offering the burnt-offering, Samuel arrived; and Saul went out to meet him and salute him. Samuel said, ‘What have you done?’ Saul replied, ‘When I saw that the people were slipping away from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines were mustering at Michmash, I said, ‘Now the Philistines will come down upon me at Gilgal, and I have not entreated the favour of the Lord’; so I forced myself, and offered the burnt-offering.’ Samuel said to Saul, ‘You have done foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which he commanded you. The Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel for ever, but now your kingdom will not continue; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart; and the Lord has appointed him to be ruler over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.’ And Samuel left and went on his way from Gilgal. The rest of the people followed Saul to join the army; they went up from Gilgal towards Gibeah of Benjamin.

Saul counted the people who were present with him, about six hundred men. Saul, his son Jonathan, and the people who were present with them stayed in Geba of Benjamin; but the Philistines encamped at Michmash. And raiders came out of the camp of the Philistines in three companies; one company turned towards Ophrah, to the land of Shual, another company turned towards Beth-horon, and another company turned towards the mountain that looks down upon the valley of Zeboim towards the wilderness.

Canticle

A Song of the Justified, or another suitable canticle, for example, number 61 (page 619), may be said

Refrain:

AllOur hope is not in vain,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts.

1God reckons as righteous those who believe,
who believe in him who raised Jesus from the dead;

2For Christ was handed over to death for our sins,
and raised to life for our justification.

3Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

4Through Christ we have gained access to the grace in which we stand, and rejoice in our hope of the glory of God.

5We even exult in our sufferings, for suffering produces endurance,

6And endurance brings hope, and our hope is not in vain,

7Because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, given to us.

8God proves his love for us: while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

9Since we have been justified by his death, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath.

10Therefore, we exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we have now received our reconciliation.

Romans 4.24, 25; 5.1-5, 8, 9, 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.

AllOur hope is not in vain, because God's love has been poured into our hearts.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.
Now the men who were holding Jesus began to mock him and beat him; they also blindfolded him and kept asking him, ‘Prophesy! Who is it that struck you?’ They kept heaping many other insults on him.

When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. They said, ‘If you are the Messiah, tell us.’ He replied, ‘If I tell you, you will not believe; and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God.’ All of them asked, ‘Are you, then, the Son of God?’ He said to them, ‘You say that I am.’ Then they said, ‘What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!’

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.  

Forsake me not, O Lord;  
be not far from me, O my God.  
Make haste to help me,  
O Lord of my salvation.  

Be not far from me, O my God.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  

Forsake me not, O Lord;  
be not far from me, O my God.  

from Psalm 38

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,  
or Saviour of the World (page 644) may be said

Refrain:

AllYou have scattered the proud in their conceit,  
and lifted up the lowly.  

1My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.  

2From this day all generations will call me blessed,
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

3He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

4He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

6He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

7He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,

8The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

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:

AllYou have scattered the proud in their conceit,
and lifted up the lowly.

Prayers

Thanksgiving may be made for the day.

Intercessions are offered
¶ for peace
¶ for individuals and their needs

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

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

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
AllThanks be to God.