

¶ Evening Prayer on Friday

Friday, 17 September 2021

Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179 [Lesser Festival]

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 35

Refrain: Give me justice, O Lord my God,
according to your righteousness.

1 Contend, O Lord, with those that contend with me; □
fight against those that fight against me.

2 Take up shield and buckler □
and rise up to help me.

3 Draw the spear and bar the way
against those who pursue me; □
say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.'

4 Let those who seek after my life be shamed and disgraced; □
let those who plot my ruin fall back and be put to confusion.

5 Let them be as chaff before the wind, □
with the angel of the Lord thrusting them down.

6 Let their way be dark and slippery, □
with the angel of the Lord pursuing them. R

7 For they have secretly spread a net for me without a cause; □
without any cause they have dug a pit for my soul.

8 Let ruin come upon them unawares; □
let them be caught in the net they laid;
let them fall in it to their destruction.

9 Then will my soul be joyful in the Lord □
and glory in his salvation.

10 My very bones will say, 'Lord, who is like you? □
You deliver the poor from those that are too strong for them,
the poor and needy from those who would despoil them.' R

11 False witnesses rose up against me; □

they charged me with things I knew not.

12 They rewarded me evil for good,[□]
to the desolation of my soul.

13 But as for me, when they were sick I put on sackcloth[□]
and humbled myself with fasting;

14 When my prayer returned empty to my bosom,[□]
it was as though I grieved for my friend or brother;

15 I behaved as one who mourns for his mother,[□]
bowed down and brought very low. R

16 But when I stumbled, they gathered in delight;
they gathered together against me;[□]
as if they were strangers I did not know
they tore at me without ceasing.

17 When I fell they mocked me;[□]
they gnashed at me with their teeth.

18 O Lord, how long will you look on?[□]
Rescue my soul from their ravages,
and my poor life from the young lions.

19 I will give you thanks in the great congregation;[□]
I will praise you in the mighty throng. R

20 Do not let my treacherous foes rejoice over me,[□]
or those who hate me without a cause
mock me with their glances.

21 For they do not speak of peace,[□]
but invent deceitful schemes against those
that are quiet in the land.

22 They opened wide their mouths and derided me, saying[□]
'We have seen it with our very eyes.'

23 This you have seen, O Lord; do not keep silent;[□]
go not far from me, O Lord.

24 Awake, arise, to my cause,[□]

to my defence, my God and my Lord!

25 Give me justice, O Lord my God,
according to your righteousness; □
let them not triumph over me. R

26 Let them not say to themselves,
'Our heart's desire!' □
Let them not say, 'We have swallowed him up.'

27 Let all who rejoice at my trouble be put to shame and confusion; □
let those who boast against me
be clothed with shame and dishonour.

28 Let those who favour my cause rejoice and be glad; □
let them say always,
'Great is the Lord, who delights in his servant's well-being.'

29 So shall my tongue be talking of your righteousness □
and of your praise all the day long.

Refrain: Give me justice, O Lord my God,
according to your righteousness.

Free us, righteous God, from all oppression,
and bring justice to the nations,
that all the world may know you
as King of kings and Lord of lords,
now and for ever.

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 Kings 11.26-end

Jeroboam son of Nebat, an Ephraimite of Zeredah, a servant of Solomon, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow, rebelled against the king. The following was the reason he rebelled against the king. Solomon built the Millo, and closed up the gap in the wall of the city of his father David. The man Jeroboam was very able,

and when Solomon saw that the young man was industrious he gave him charge over all the forced labour of the house of Joseph. About that time, when Jeroboam was leaving Jerusalem, the prophet Ahijah the Shilonite found him on the road. Ahijah had clothed himself with a new garment. The two of them were alone in the open country when Ahijah laid hold of the new garment he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces. He then said to Jeroboam: Take for yourself ten pieces; for thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'See, I am about to tear the kingdom from the hand of Solomon, and will give you ten tribes. One tribe will remain his, for the sake of my servant David and for the sake of Jerusalem, the city that I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel. This is because he has forsaken me, worshipped Astarte the goddess of the Sidonians, Chemosh the god of Moab, and Milcom the god of the Ammonites, and has not walked in my ways, doing what is right in my sight and keeping my statutes and my ordinances, as his father David did. Nevertheless, I will not take the whole kingdom away from him but will make him ruler all the days of his life, for the sake of my servant David whom I chose and who did keep my commandments and my statutes; but I will take the kingdom away from his son and give it to you—that is, the ten tribes. Yet to his son I will give one tribe, so that my servant David may always have a lamp before me in Jerusalem, the city where I have chosen to put my name. I will take you, and you shall reign over all that your soul desires; you shall be king over Israel. If you will listen to all that I command you, walk in my ways, and do what is right in my sight by keeping my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did, I will be with you, and will build you an enduring house, as I built for David, and I will give Israel to you. For this reason I will punish the descendants of David, but not for ever.' Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam; but Jeroboam promptly fled to Egypt, to King Shishak of Egypt, and remained in Egypt until the death of Solomon.

Now the rest of the acts of Solomon, all that he did as well as his wisdom, are they not written in the Book of the Acts of Solomon? The time that Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel was forty years. Solomon slept with his ancestors and was buried in the city of his father David; and his son Rehoboam succeeded him.

Canticle

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

Refrain:

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

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

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

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

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

5 We 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.

Acts 18.1-21

After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. There he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, and, because he was of the same trade, he stayed with them, and they worked together—by trade they were tentmakers. Every sabbath he would argue in the synagogue and would try to convince Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with proclaiming the word, testifying to the Jews that the Messiah was Jesus. When they opposed and reviled him, in protest he shook the dust from his clothes and said to them, 'Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.' Then he left the synagogue and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshipper of God; his house was next door to the synagogue. Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household; and many of the Corinthians who heard Paul became believers and were baptized. One night the Lord said to Paul in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, but speak and do not be silent; for I am with you, and no one will lay a

hand on you to harm you, for there are many in this city who are my people.' He stayed there for a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

But when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews made a united attack on Paul and brought him before the tribunal. They said, 'This man is persuading people to worship God in ways that are contrary to the law.' Just as Paul was about to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, 'If it were a matter of crime or serious villainy, I would be justified in accepting the complaint of you Jews; but since it is a matter of questions about words and names and your own law, see to it yourselves; I do not wish to be a judge of these matters.' And he dismissed them from the tribunal. Then all of them seized Sosthenes, the official of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the tribunal. But Gallio paid no attention to any of these things.

After staying there for a considerable time, Paul said farewell to the believers and sailed for Syria, accompanied by Priscilla and Aquila. At Cenchreae he had his hair cut, for he was under a vow. When they reached Ephesus, he left them there, but first he himself went into the synagogue and had a discussion with the Jews. When they asked him to stay longer, he declined; but on taking leave of them, he said, 'I will return to you, if God wills.' Then he set sail from Ephesus.

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.
All
Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.
Make haste to help me,
O Lord of my salvation.
All
Be not far from me, O my God.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
All
Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.

from Psalm 38

Gospel Cantic

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

Refrain:

All
You have left all things and followed me:
you will be rewarded a hundred times over and gain eternal life.

1
My 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 left all things and followed me:
you will be rewarded a hundred times over and gain eternal life.

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

Most glorious and holy God,

whose servant Hildegard, strong in the faith,

was caught up in the vision of your heavenly courts:

by the breath of your Spirit

open our eyes to glimpse your glory

and our lips to sing your praises with all the angels;

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

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.

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/evening-prayer-contemporary-friday-17-september-2021>