

## ¶ Evening Prayer

**from All Saints' Day until**

**the day before the First Sunday of Advent**

**Monday, 22 November 2021**

**Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c.230 [Commemoration]**

### **Preparation**

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All They make known the glory of your kingdom.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

our light and our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

Now, as darkness is falling,

wash away our transgressions,

cleanse us by your refining fire

and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.

By the light of Christ,

dispel the darkness of our hearts

and make us ready to enter your kingdom,

where songs of praise for ever sound.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of Tobit \(page 596\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Give me the wings of faith to rise

within the veil, and see

the saints above, how great their joys,  
how bright their glories be.

Once they were mourning here below,  
and wet their couch with tears;  
they wrestled hard, as we do now,  
with sins and doubts and fears.

I ask them whence their victory came:  
they, with united breath,  
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,  
their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod,  
his zeal inspired their breast,  
and, following their incarnate God,  
possess the promised rest.

Our glorious Leader claims our praise  
for his own pattern given;  
while the long cloud of witnesses  
show the same path to heaven.

Isaac Watts

(Tune: CM)

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 80

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, <sup>□</sup>  
you that led Joseph like a flock;

2 Shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim, <sup>□</sup>  
before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.

3 Stir up your mighty strength <sup>□</sup>  
and come to our salvation.

4 *Turn us again, O God; <sup>□</sup>  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

5 O Lord God of hosts, <sup>□</sup>  
how long will you be angry at your people's prayer?

6 You feed them with the bread of tears; <sup>□</sup>  
you give them abundance of tears to drink.

7 You have made us the derision of our neighbours <sup>□</sup>  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

8 *Turn us again, O God of hosts; <sup>□</sup>  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

9 You brought a vine out of Egypt; <sup>□</sup>  
you drove out the nations and planted it.

10 You made room around it, <sup>□</sup>  
and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

11 The hills were covered with its shadow <sup>□</sup>  
and the cedars of God by its boughs.

12 It stretched out its branches to the Sea <sup>□</sup>  
and its tendrils to the River.

13 Why then have you broken down its wall,<sup>□</sup>  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

14 The wild boar out of the wood tears it off,<sup>□</sup>  
and all the insects of the field devour it.

15 Turn again, O God of hosts,<sup>□</sup>  
look down from heaven and behold;

16 Cherish this vine which your right hand has planted,<sup>□</sup>  
and the branch that you made so strong for yourself.

17 Let those who burnt it with fire, who cut it down,<sup>□</sup>  
perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

18 Let your hand be upon the man at your right hand,<sup>□</sup>  
the son of man you made so strong for yourself.

19 And so will we not go back from you;<sup>□</sup>  
give us life, and we shall call upon your name.

20 *Turn us again, O Lord God of hosts;<sup>□</sup>  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.*

Faithful shepherd of your people,  
as we look for the light of your countenance,  
restore in us the image of your glory  
and graft us into the risen life of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Psalm 81**

Refrain: O come, let us sing to the Lord.

1 Sing merrily to God our strength,<sup>□</sup>  
shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

2 Take up the song and sound the timbrel,<sup>□</sup>  
the tuneful lyre with the harp.

3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon,<sup>□</sup>  
as at the full moon, upon our solemn feast day.

4 For this is a statute for Israel,<sup>□</sup>

a law of the God of Jacob,

5 The charge he laid on the people of Joseph,<sup>□</sup>  
when they came out of the land of Egypt. R

6 I heard a voice I did not know, that said:<sup>□</sup>  
'I eased their shoulder from the burden;  
their hands were set free from bearing the load.

7 You called upon me in trouble and I delivered you;<sup>□</sup>  
I answered you from the secret place of thunder  
and proved you at the waters of Meribah.

8 'Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you:<sup>□</sup>  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

9 'There shall be no strange god among you;<sup>□</sup>  
you shall not worship a foreign god.

10 'I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you up from the land of Egypt;<sup>□</sup>  
open your mouth wide and I shall fill it.' R

11 But my people would not hear my voice<sup>□</sup>  
and Israel would not obey me.

12 So I sent them away in the stubbornness of their hearts,<sup>□</sup>  
and let them walk after their own counsels.

13 O that my people would listen to me,<sup>□</sup>  
that Israel would walk in my ways!

14 Then I should soon put down their enemies<sup>□</sup>  
and turn my hand against their adversaries.

15 Those who hate the Lord would be humbled before him,<sup>□</sup>  
and their punishment would last for ever.

16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat<sup>□</sup>  
and with honey from the rock would I satisfy them.

Refrain: O come, let us sing to the Lord.

Father of mercy,

keep us joyful in your salvation  
and faithful to your covenant;  
and, as we journey to your kingdom,  
ever feed us with the bread of life,  
your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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.

## **Isaiah 40.1-11**

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her  
that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,  
that she has received from the Lord's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;

surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

'Here is your God!'

See, the Lord God comes with might,

and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

## Canticle

A Song of God's Assembled, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 70 \(page 628\)](#) or [number 73 \(page 631\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All We have come before the throne of God

to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

1 We have come before God's holy mountain, <sup>□</sup>

to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.

2 We have come before countless angels making festival, <sup>□</sup>

before the assembly of the firstborn citizens of heaven.

3We have come before God, who is judge of all,<sup>□</sup>  
before the spirits of the just made perfect.

4We have come before Jesus,<sup>□</sup>  
the mediator of the new covenant.

5We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken:<sup>□</sup>  
so let us give thanks and offer to God acceptable worship,

6Full of reverence and awe;<sup>□</sup>  
for our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12.22-24a, 28, 29

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.

AllWe have come before the throne of God  
to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## Revelation 14.1-13

Then I looked, and there was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion! And with him were one hundred and forty-four thousand who had his name and his Father's name written on their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven like the sound of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder; the voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the one hundred forty-four thousand who have been redeemed from the earth. It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins; these follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They have been redeemed from humankind as first fruits for God and the Lamb, and in their mouth no lie was found; they are blameless.

Then I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth—to every nation and tribe and language and people. He said in a loud voice, 'Fear God and give him glory, for the hour of his judgement has come; and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.'

Then another angel, a second, followed, saying, 'Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great! She has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.'

Then another angel, a third, followed them, crying with a loud voice, 'Those who worship the beast and its image, and receive a mark on their foreheads or on their hands, they will also drink the wine of God's wrath, poured unmixed into the cup of his anger, and they will be tormented with fire and sulphur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment goes up for ever and ever. There is no rest day or night for those who worship the beast and its image and for anyone who receives the mark of its name.'

Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and hold fast to the faith of Jesus.

And I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord.' 'Yes,' says the Spirit, 'they will rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them.'

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 Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,

or the [Nunc dimittis \(The Song of the Simeon\) \(page 613\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All The righteous will shine like the sun

in the kingdom of their Father.

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; <sup>□</sup>

he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2From this day all generations will call me blessed;<sup>□</sup>  
the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

3He has mercy on those who fear him,<sup>□</sup>  
from generation to generation.

4He has shown strength with his arm<sup>□</sup>  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5Casting down the mighty from their thrones<sup>□</sup>  
and lifting up the lowly.

6He has filled the hungry with good things<sup>□</sup>  
and sent the rich away empty.

7He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,<sup>□</sup>  
to remember his promise of mercy,

8The promise made to our ancestors,<sup>□</sup>  
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:

AllThe righteous will shine like the sun  
in the kingdom of their Father.

## 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 364–365](#)

- ¶ The saints on earth, that they may live as citizens of heaven
- ¶ All people, that they may hear and believe the word of God
- ¶ All who fear the winter months
- ¶ All sovereigns and political leaders, that they may imitate the righteous rule of Christ
- ¶ All who grieve or wait with the dying

A form of prayer found [on page 384](#) 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

Eternal Father,

whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven

that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:

keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of peace,

and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;

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

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,

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)

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,

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**

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,

bring us to reign with him in glory.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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