

☩ Morning Prayer

from All Saints' Day until

the day before the First Sunday of Advent

Thursday, 25 November 2021

Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, 4th century [Commemoration]

Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748 [Commemoration]

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Your faithful servants bless you.

And 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,

ruler and judge of all,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of this age that is passing away

may the light of your presence which the saints enjoy

surround our steps as we journey on.

May we reflect your glory this day

and so be made ready to see your face

in the heavenly city where night shall be no more.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or A Song of Trust in God

1As the deer longs for the water brooks,[□]
so longs my soul for you, O God.

2My soul is athirst for God, even for the living God;[□]
when shall I come before the presence of God?

3My tears have been my bread day and night,[□]
while all day long they say to me, 'Where is now your God?'

4Now when I think on these things, I pour out my soul:[□]
how I went with the multitude
and led the procession to the house of God,

5With the voice of praise and thanksgiving,[□]
among those who kept holy day.

6Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul,[□]
and why are you so disquieted within me?

7O put your trust in God;[□]
for I will yet give him thanks,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

Psalm 42.1-7

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 125

Refrain: Glorious things are spoken of you,
Zion, city of our God.

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,[□]
which cannot be moved, but stands fast for ever.

2 As the hills stand about Jerusalem,[□]
so the Lord stands round about his people,
from this time forth for evermore.

3 The sceptre of wickedness shall not hold sway
over the land allotted to the righteous,[□]
lest the righteous turn their hands to evil.

4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,[□]
and to those who are true of heart.

5 Those who turn aside to crooked ways
the Lord shall take away with the evildoers;[□]
but let there be peace upon Israel.

Refrain: Glorious things are spoken of you,
Zion, city of our God.

God of power,
you are strong to save
and you never fail those who trust in you;
keep us under your protection
and spread abroad your reign of peace
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 126

Refrain: The Lord has indeed done great things for us.

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,[□]
then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter[□]
and our tongue with songs of joy.

3 Then said they among the nations,[□]
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us,[□]
and therefore we rejoiced. R

5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord,[□]
as the river beds of the desert.

6 Those who sow in tears[□]
shall reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,[□]
will come back with shouts of joy,
bearing their sheaves with them.

Refrain: The Lord has indeed done great things for us.

Lord, as you send rain and flowers
even to the wilderness,
renew us by your Holy Spirit,
help us to sow good seed in time of adversity
and to live to rejoice in your good harvest of all creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 127

Refrain: The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in.

1 Unless the Lord builds the house,[□]
those who build it labour in vain.

2 Unless the Lord keeps the city,[□]
the guard keeps watch in vain.

3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early
and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil,[□]
for he gives his beloved sleep. R

4 Children are a heritage from the Lord[□]
and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior,[□]
so are the children of one's youth.

6 Happy are those who have their quiver full of them:[□]
they shall not be put to shame
when they dispute with their enemies in the gate.

Refrain: The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in.

Lord, you are ever watchful
and bless us with your gifts;
as you provide for all our needs,
so help us to build only what pleases you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 128

Refrain: How abundant is your goodness, O Lord.

1 Blessed are all those who fear the Lord,[□]
and walk in his ways.

2 You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands;[□]
it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be. R

3 Your wife within your house
shall be like a fruitful vine;[□]
your children round your table,
like fresh olive branches.

4 Thus shall the one be blest [□]

who fears the Lord. R

5 The Lord from out of Zion bless you, [□]

that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity

all the days of your life.

6 May you see your children's children, [□]

and may there be peace upon Israel.

Refrain: How abundant is your goodness, O Lord.

O Christ, our true vine,

may we your branches

be ever fruitful in your service

and share your love and peace with all your children,

in the power of the Spirit and to the glory of the Father.

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 21.1-12

The oracle concerning the wilderness of the sea.

As whirlwinds in the Negeb sweep on,

it comes from the desert,

from a terrible land.

A stern vision is told to me;

the betrayer betrays,

and the destroyer destroys.

Go up, O Elam,

lay siege, O Media;

all the sighing she has caused

I bring to an end.

Therefore my loins are filled with anguish;

pangs have seized me,

like the pangs of a woman in labour;

I am bowed down so that I cannot hear,

I am dismayed so that I cannot see.

My mind reels, horror has appalled me;

the twilight I longed for

has been turned for me into trembling.

They prepare the table,

they spread the rugs,

they eat, they drink.

Rise up, commanders,

oil the shield!

For thus the Lord said to me:

'Go, post a lookout,

let him announce what he sees.

When he sees riders, horsemen in pairs,

riders on donkeys, riders on camels,

let him listen diligently,

very diligently.'

Then the watcher called out:

'Upon a watch-tower I stand, O Lord,

continually by day,

and at my post I am stationed

throughout the night.

Look, there they come, riders,

horsemen in pairs!

Then he responded,

'Fallen, fallen is Babylon;

and all the images of her gods

lie shattered on the ground.'

O my threshed and winnowed one,

what I have heard from the Lord of hosts,

the God of Israel, I announce to you.

The oracle concerning Dumah.

One is calling to me from Seir,

'Sentinel, what of the night?

Sentinel, what of the night?'

The sentinel says:

'Morning comes, and also the night.

If you will inquire, inquire;

come back again.'

Canticle

A Song of the New Creation, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 28 \(page 579\)](#), [number 46 \(page 598\)](#) or [number 47 \(page 599\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All will make a way in the wilderness,

and rivers in the desert.

1'I am the Lord, your Holy One, ☐

the Creator of Israel, your King.'

2Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, ☐

a path in the mighty waters,

3'Remember not the former things, ☐

nor consider the things of old.

4'Behold, I am doing a new thing; ☐

now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

5'I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert, ☐

to give drink to my chosen people,

6'The people whom I formed for myself, ☐

that they might declare my praise.'

Isaiah 43.15, 16, 18, 19, 20c, 21

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 will make a way in the wilderness,
and rivers in the desert.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Matthew 10.34 – 11.1

Jesus said to the twelve, 'Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,

and a daughter against her mother,

and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.'

Now when Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and proclaim his message in their cities.

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

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord,

All my lips shall proclaim your faithfulness.

The heavens bear witness to your wonders;

All will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

The assembly of your saints proclaims your truth;

All my lips shall proclaim your faithfulness.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;

steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.

All will sing for ever of your love, O Lord,

my lips shall proclaim your faithfulness.

from Psalm 89

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,
or the [Te Deum Laudamus \(A Song of the Church\) \(page 636\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All You will guide us with your counsel, O God,
and afterwards receive us with glory.

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 You will guide us with your counsel, O God,
and afterwards receive us with glory.

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 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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