

## ¶ Evening Prayer

### Advent

**Wednesday, 1 December 2021**

**Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916 [Commemoration]**

### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Reveal among us the light of your presence

All that we may behold your power and glory.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

creator of light and darkness,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

As evening falls, you renew your promise

to reveal among us the light of your presence.

May your word be a lantern to our feet

and a light upon our path

that we may behold your coming among us.

Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness

and free our tongues to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of Mercy and Truth \(page 559\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Creator of the stars of night,  
thy people's everlasting light,  
O Jesu, Saviour of us all,  
regard thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving at the bitter cry  
of all creation doomed to die,  
didst come to save a ruined race  
with healing gifts of heavenly grace.

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride,  
as drew the world to evening-tide,  
proceeding from a virgin shrine,  
the Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

At thy great name, exalted now,  
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow,  
and things in heaven and earth shall own  
that thou art Lord and King alone.

To thee, O holy One, we pray  
our judge in that tremendous day,  
preserve us, while we dwell below,  
from every onslaught of the foe.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee,  
whose advent sets thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Spirit blest, for evermore.

Latin, tr: J M Neale

(Tune: LM)

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.

All Amen.

## The Word of God

### Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

### Psalm 76

Refrain: The Lord has made fast his throne for judgement.

1 In Judah God is known; <sup>□</sup>

his name is great in Israel.

2 At Salem is his tabernacle, <sup>□</sup>

and his dwelling place in Zion.

3 There broke he the flashing arrows of the bow, <sup>□</sup>

the shield, the sword and the weapons of war. R

4 In the light of splendour you appeared, <sup>□</sup>

glorious from the eternal mountains.

5 The boastful were plundered; they have slept their sleep; <sup>□</sup>

none of the warriors can lift their hand.

6 At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, <sup>□</sup>

both horse and chariot fell stunned. R

7 Terrible are you in majesty: <sup>□</sup>

who can stand before your face when you are angry?

8 You caused your judgement to be heard from heaven; <sup>□</sup>

the earth trembled and was still,

9 When God arose to judgement, <sup>□</sup>

to save all the meek upon earth. R

10 You crushed the wrath of the peoples

and bridled the wrathful remnant.

11 Make a vow to the Lord your God and keep it;

let all who are round about him bring gifts

to him that is worthy to be feared.

12 He breaks down the spirit of princes

and strikes terror in the kings of the earth.

Refrain: The Lord has made fast his throne for judgement.

Majestic and gracious God,

more awesome than the agents of war,

more powerful than the wrath of nations,

restrain the violence of the peoples

and draw the despised of the earth

into the joyful life of your kingdom,

where you live and reign for ever and ever.

## Psalm 77

Refrain: In the day of my trouble I have sought the Lord.

1 I cry aloud to God;

I cry aloud to God and he will hear me.

2 In the day of my trouble I have sought the Lord;

by night my hand is stretched out and does not tire;

my soul refuses comfort.

3 I think upon God and I groan;

I ponder, and my spirit faints.

4 You will not let my eyelids close;

I am so troubled that I cannot speak. R

5 I consider the days of old;

I remember the years long past;

6 I commune with my heart in the night;

my spirit searches for understanding.

7 Will the Lord cast us off for ever? □

Will he no more show us his favour?

8 Has his loving mercy clean gone for ever? □

Has his promise come to an end for evermore?

9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? □

Has he shut up his compassion in displeasure?

10 And I said, 'My grief is this: □

that the right hand of the Most High has lost its strength.' R

11 I will remember the works of the Lord □

and call to mind your wonders of old time.

12 I will meditate on all your works □

and ponder your mighty deeds.

13 Your way, O God, is holy; □

who is so great a god as our God?

14 You are the God who worked wonders □

and declared your power among the peoples.

15 With a mighty arm you redeemed your people, □

the children of Jacob and Joseph. R

16 The waters saw you, O God;

the waters saw you and were afraid; □

the depths also were troubled.

17 The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; □

your arrows flashed on every side;

18 The voice of your thunder was in the whirlwind;

your lightnings lit up the ground; □

the earth trembled and shook.

19 Your way was in the sea, and your paths in the great waters, □

but your footsteps were not known.

20 You led your people like sheep □

by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Refrain: In the day of my trouble I have sought the Lord.

God our shepherd,  
you led us and saved us in times of old;  
do not forget your people in their troubles,  
but raise up your power  
to sustain the poor and helpless;  
for the honour of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 43.14-end**

Thus says the Lord,  
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:  
For your sake I will send to Babylon  
and break down all the bars,  
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.

I am the Lord, your Holy One,  
the Creator of Israel, your King.

Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness

and rivers in the desert.  
The wild animals will honour me,  
the jackals and the ostriches;  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

Yet you did not call upon me, O Jacob;  
but you have been weary of me, O Israel!  
You have not brought me your sheep for burnt-offerings,  
or honoured me with your sacrifices.  
I have not burdened you with offerings,  
or wearied you with frankincense.  
You have not bought me sweet cane with money,  
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.  
But you have burdened me with your sins;  
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

I, I am He  
who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,  
and I will not remember your sins.  
Accuse me, let us go to trial;  
set forth your case, so that you may be proved right.  
Your first ancestor sinned,  
and your interpreters transgressed against me.  
Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary,  
I delivered Jacob to utter destruction,  
and Israel to reviling.

## Canticle

A Song of the Spirit, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 57 \(page 614\)](#) or [number 72 \(page 630\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Surely I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord,

'and bringing my reward with me, <sup>□</sup>

to give to everyone according to their deeds.

2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, <sup>□</sup>

the beginning and the end.'

3 Blessed are those who do God's commandments,

that they may have the right to the tree of life, <sup>□</sup>

and may enter into the city through the gates.

4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, <sup>□</sup>

with this testimony for all the churches.

5 'I am the root and the offspring of David, <sup>□</sup>

I am the bright morning star.'

6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride; <sup>□</sup>

'Come!' let each hearer reply.

7 Come forward, you who are thirsty, <sup>□</sup>

let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

Revelation 22.12-14, 16, 17

All To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb <sup>□</sup>

be blessing and honour and glory and might,

for ever and ever. Amen.

All Surely I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## Revelation 21.1-8



Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur, which is the second death.'

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

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:

in your word is my hope.

All My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:

in your word is my hope.

There is forgiveness with you,

so that you shall be feared.

All In your word is my hope.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

All My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:

in your word is my hope.

from Psalm 130

## Gospel Cantic

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said, or [The Song of Christ's Glory \(page 619\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,

the one whom we await with longing hearts.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 The promise made to our ancestors,<sup>□</sup>  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

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 Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,  
the one whom we await with longing hearts.

## 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 Church, that she may be ready for the coming of Christ

¶ The leaders of the Church

¶ The nations, that they may be subject to the rule of God

¶ Those who are working for justice in the world

¶ The broken, that they may find God's healing

A form of prayer found [on page 377](#) 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

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day,

when he shall come again in his glorious majesty

to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
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)

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
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 the Lord, when he comes,  
find us watching and waiting.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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