Evening Prayer on Saturday

Saturday, 2 July 2022

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
All O 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:
All Blessed be God for ever.

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of God’s Light

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?
2 Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not be afraid; and though there rise up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.

3 One thing have I asked of the Lord and that alone I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

4 To behold the fair beauty of the Lord and to seek his will in his temple.

5 For in the day of trouble he shall hide me in his shelter; and in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me and set me high upon a rock.

6 Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Psalm 27.1, 3-6, 8

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.

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. Amen.
Psalm 65

Refrain: Be joyful in God, all the earth.

1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; to you that answer prayer shall vows be paid.

2 To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins; when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.

3 Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there. We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your holy temple.

4 With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

5 In your strength you set fast the mountains and are girded about with might.

6 You still the raging of the seas, the roaring of their waves and the clamour of the peoples.

7 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your marvels; the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise.

8 You visit the earth and water it; you make it very plenteous.

9 The river of God is full of water,
you prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth.

10 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless its increase.

11 You crown the year with your goodness;
and your paths overflow with plenty.

12 May the pastures of the wilderness flow with goodness;
and the hills be girded with joy.

13 May the meadows be clothed with flocks of sheep;
and the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall laugh and sing.

Refrain: Be joyful in God, all the earth.

May the richness of your creation, Lord,
and the mystery of your providence
lead us to that heavenly city
where all peoples will bring their wealth,
forsake their sins and find their true joy,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 66

Refrain: All the earth shall worship you, O Lord.

1 Be joyful in God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
sing the glory of his praise.

2 Say to God, How awesome are your deeds!
Because of your great strength
your enemies shall bow before you.

3 All the earth shall worship you,
sing to you, sing praise to your name.

4 Come now and behold the works of God;
how wonderful he is in his dealings with humankind.
5 He turned the sea into dry land; 
the river they passed through on foot; there we rejoiced in him.

6 In his might he rules for ever; 
his eyes keep watch over the nations; let no rebel rise up against him. 

7 Bless our God, O you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard, 

8 Who holds our souls in life and suffers not our feet to slip. 

9 For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us as silver is tried. 

10 You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs. 

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; but you brought us out into a place of liberty. 

12 I will come into your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows, which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble. 

13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of rams; I will sacrifice oxen and goats. 

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for my soul. 

15 I called out to him with my mouth and his praise was on my tongue. 

16 If I had nursed evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me, 

17 But in truth God has heard me.
he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his loving mercy from me.

Refrain: All the earth shall worship you, O Lord.

How generous is your goodness, O God, how great is your salvation, how faithful is your love; help us to trust you in trial and praise you in deliverance; through 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.

Ezra 6

Then King Darius made a decree, and they searched the archives where the documents were stored in Babylon. But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written: A record. In the first year of his reign, King Cyrus issued a decree: Concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, let the house be rebuilt, the place where sacrifices are offered and burnt-offerings are brought; its height shall be sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits, with three courses of hewn stones and one course of timber; let the cost be paid from the royal treasury. Moreover, let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and brought back to the temple in Jerusalem, each to its place; you shall put them in the house of God.

Now you, Tattenai, governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and you, their associates, the envoys in the province Beyond the River, keep away; let the work on this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild this house of God on its site. Moreover, I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God: the cost is to be paid to these people, in full and without delay, from the royal revenue, the tribute of the province Beyond the River. Whatever is needed young bulls, rams, or sheep for burnt-offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, or oil, as the priests in Jerusalem require that be given to them day by day without fail, so that they may offer pleasing sacrifices to the God of heaven, and pray for the life of the king and his children. Furthermore, I decree that if anyone alters this edict, a beam shall be pulled out of the house of the perpetrator, who then shall be impaled on it. The house shall be made a dunghill. May the God who has established his name there overthrow any king or people that shall put forth a hand to alter this, or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem. I, Darius, make a decree; let it be done with all diligence.

Then, according to the word sent by King Darius, Tattenai, the governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and their associates did with all
diligence what King Darius had ordered. So the elders of the Jews built and prospered, through the prophesying of the prophet Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo. They finished their building by command of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus, Darius, and King Artaxerxes of Persia; and this house was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

The people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy. They offered at the dedication of this house of God one hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin-offering for all Israel twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel. Then they set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their courses for the service of God at Jerusalem, as it is written in the book of Moses.

On the fourteenth day of the first month the returned exiles kept the passover. For both the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were clean. So they killed the passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow-priests, and for themselves. It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile, and also by all who had joined them and separated themselves from the pollutions of the nations of the land to worship the Lord, the God of Israel. With joy they celebrated the festival of unleavened bread for seven days; for the Lord had made them joyful, and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work on the house of God, the God of Israel.

Canticle

A Song of God’s Love, or another suitable canticle, for example number 53 (page 606), may be said

Refrain:

All God’s love was revealed among us
so that we might live through Jesus.

1Beloved, let us love one another,
for love is of God; ♦
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

2Whoever does not love does not know God, ♦
for God is love.

3In this the love of God was revealed among us, ♦
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.

4In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us, ♦
and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

5Beloved, since God loved us so much, ♦
we ought also to love one another.

6For if we love one another, God abides in us,
and your love is perfected in us. ♦
and God’s love will be perfected in us.

1 John 4.7-11, 12b

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 God’s love was revealed among us
so that we might live through Jesus.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Romans 11.13-24

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry in order to make my own people jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy.

But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the rich root of the olive tree, do not vaunt yourselves over the branches. If you do vaunt yourselves, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. You will say, ‘Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.’ That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. For if God did not spare the natural branches, perhaps he will not spare you. Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity towards those who have fallen, but God’s kindness towards you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. And even those of Israel, if they do not persist in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree.

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

Your salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

Your salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

That glory may dwell in our land.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

AllYour salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

from Psalm 85

**Gospel Canticle**

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,
or [A Song of Praise (page 627)] may be said

Refrain:

AllYou have looked with favour on your lowly servant,
from this day all generations will call her blessed.

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.
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 have looked with favour on your lowly servant,
from this day all generations will call her blessed.

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
¶ Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love
¶ Those whose time is spent caring for others
¶ Those who are close to death
¶ Those who have lost hope
¶ The worship of the Church

One of the forms of prayer found on pages 362–363 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,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts
by wielding we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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.
Amen.
The Lord's Prayer is said
As our Saviour taught us, so we pray
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
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.

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