Evening Prayer on Friday

Friday, 8 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 Entreaty

1 Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.

2 Enter not into judgement with your servant;
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

3 My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.
4 I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.

5 O 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.

6 Let 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.

7 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.

8 Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.

Psalm 143.1, 2, 4-8, 10, 11

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.
All Amen.

The Word of God
Psalm 69

Refrain: Hide not your face from your servant, O Lord.

1 Save me, O God; for the waters have come up, even to my neck.
2 I sink in deep mire where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters and the flood sweeps over me.
3 I have grown weary with crying; my throat is raw; my eyes have failed from looking so long for my God.
4 Those who hate me without any cause are more than the hairs of my head; my enemies accuse me falsely: must I now give back what I never stole?
5 Those who would destroy me are mighty; my enemies accuse me falsely: must I now give back what I never stole?
6 O God, you know my foolishness; and my faults are not hidden from you.
7 Let not those who hope in you be put to shame through me, Lord God of hosts; let not those who seek you be disgraced because of me, O God of Israel.
8 For your sake have I suffered reproach; shame has covered my face.
9 I have become a stranger to my kindred; an alien to my mother's children.
10 Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.
11 I humbled myself with fasting; but that was turned to my reproach.

12 I put on sackcloth also and became a byword among them.

13 Those who sit at the gate murmur against me; and the drunkards make songs about me.

14 But as for me, I make my prayer to you, O Lord; at an acceptable time, O God.

15 Answer me, O God, in the abundance of your mercy and with your sure salvation.

16 Draw me out of the mire, that I sink not; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

17 Let not the water flood drown me, neither the deep swallow me up; let not the Pit shut its mouth upon me.

18 Answer me, Lord, for your loving-kindness is good; turn to me in the multitude of your mercies.

19 Hide not your face from your servant; be swift to answer me, for I am in trouble.

20 Draw near to my soul and redeem me; deliver me because of my enemies.

21 You know my reproach, my shame and my dishonour; my adversaries are all in your sight.

22 Reproach has broken my heart; I am full of heaviness; I looked for some to have pity, but there was no one, neither found I any to comfort me.

23 They gave me gall to eat; and when I was thirsty, they gave me vinegar to drink.
24 Let the table before them be a trap; and their sacred feasts a snare.
25 Let their eyes be darkened, that they cannot see; and give them continual trembling in their loins.
26 Pour out your indignation upon them; and let the heat of your anger overtake them.
27 Let their camp be desolate; and let there be no one to dwell in their tents.
R
28 For they persecute the one whom you have stricken; and increase the sorrows of him whom you have pierced.
29 Lay to their charge guilt upon guilt; and let them not receive your vindication.
30 Let them be wiped out of the book of the living; and not be written among the righteous.
R
31 As for me, I am poor and in misery; your saving help, O God, will lift me up.
32 I will praise the name of God with a song; I will proclaim his greatness with thanksgiving.
33 This will please the Lord more than an offering of oxen; more than bulls with horns and hooves.
34 The humble shall see and be glad; you who seek God, your heart shall live.
R
35 For the Lord listens to the needy; and his own who are imprisoned he does not despise.
36 Let the heavens and the earth praise him; the seas and all that moves in them;
37 For God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah; they shall live there and have it in possession.
38 The children of his servants shall inherit it; and they that love his name shall dwell therein.
Refrain: Hide not your face from your servant, O Lord.

Thirsting on the cross,
your Son shared the reproach of the oppressed
and carried the sins of all;
in him, O God, may the despairing find you,
the afflicted gain life
and the whole creation know its true king.
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.

Nehemiah 1

The words of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah. In the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capital, one of my brothers, Hanani, came with certain men from Judah; and I asked them about the Jews that survived, those who had escaped the captivity, and about Jerusalem. They replied, The survivors there in the province who escaped captivity are in great trouble and shame; the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been destroyed by fire.

When I heard these words I sat down and wept, and mourned for days, fasting and praying before the God of heaven. I said, O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments; let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for your servants the people of Israel, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Both I and my family have sinned. We have offended you deeply, failing to keep the commandments, the statutes, and the ordinances that you commanded your servant Moses. Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples; but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are under the farthest skies, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place at which I have chosen to establish my name. They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great power and your strong hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man!

At the time, I was cupbearer to the king.

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,

6 And endurance brings hope, and our hope is not in vain,

7 Because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, given to us.

8 God proves his love for us: while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

9 Since we have been justified by his death, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath.

10 Therefore, 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

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 Our 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.

Romans 13.8-end

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, Love your neighbour as yourself. Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

from Psalm 38

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,
or Saviour of the World (page 644) may be said
Refrain:
All You have scattered the proud in their conceit, and lifted up the lowly.

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.

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 You have scattered the proud in their conceit, and lifted up the lowly.
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 362-363 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

whereby 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.

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.