

Evening Prayer from

The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday, 25 September 2022

The [introduction](#) to the service is used on Sundays, and may be used on any occasion. If the Introduction is not used, the service begins with the [opening responses](#).

¶ *Introduction*

The minister may use a [seasonal](#) sentence before using one or more of the [penitential](#) sentences.

The minister introduces the service

Dearly beloved [brethren],

the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge
and confess our manifold sins and wickedness;

[and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before
the face of almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and
obedient heart;

to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same
by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge
our sins before God;

yet ought we most chiefly so to do,

when we assemble and meet together

to render thanks for the great benefits that we have
received at his hands,

to set forth his most worthy praise,

to hear his most holy word,

and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.]

Wherefore I pray and beseech you,

as many as are here present,

to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying [after me]:

(or)

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

All

Almighty and most merciful Father,

we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.

**We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.**

We have offended against thy holy laws.

**We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;**

**and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;**

and there is no health in us.

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.

Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.

Restore thou them that are penitent;

**according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.**

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,

**that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.**

Amen.

A priest says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who desireth not the death of a sinner,

but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live;
and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers
to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent,
the absolution and remission of their sins:

he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent
and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel.

Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance,
and his Holy Spirit,

that those things may please him which we do at this present;

and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy;

so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

or other ministers may say

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,

to thy faithful people pardon and peace,

that they may be cleansed from all their sins,

and serve thee with a quiet mind;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done,

in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive them that 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 [introduction](#) to the service is used on Sundays, and may be used on any occasion. If the Introduction is not used, the service begins with the [opening responses](#).

These responses are used

O Lord, open thou our lips

All **and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.

All **The Lord's name be praised.**

Psalmody

Psalm 134

1 Behold now, praise the Lord *
all ye servants of the Lord;

2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord *
even in the courts of the house of our God.

3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary *
and praise the Lord.

4 The Lord that made heaven and earth *
give thee blessing out of Sion.

Psalm 135*

- 1 O praise the Lord, laud ye the Name of the Lord *
praise it, O ye servants of the Lord;
- 2 Ye that stand in the house of the Lord *
in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 O praise the Lord, for the Lord is gracious *
O sing praises unto his Name, for it is lovely.
- 4 For why? the Lord hath chosen Jacob unto himself *
and Israel for his own possession.
- 5 For I know that the Lord is great *
and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth *
and in the sea, and in all deep places.
- 7 He bringeth forth the clouds from the ends of the world *
and sendeth forth lightnings with the rain, bringing the winds out of his
treasures.
- 8 He smote the first-born of Egypt *
both of man and beast.
- 9 He hath sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O thou land of Egypt *
upon Pharaoh, and all his servants.
- 10 He smote divers nations *
and slew mighty kings;
- 11 Sehon king of the Amorites, and Og the king of Basan *
and all the kingdoms of Canaan;

- 12 And gave their land to be an heritage *
even an heritage unto Israel his people.
- 13 Thy Name, O Lord, endureth for ever *
so doth thy memorial, O Lord, from one generation to another.
- 14 For the Lord will avenge his people *
and be gracious unto his servants.
- 15 As for the images of the heathen, they are but silver and gold *
the work of men's hands.
- 16 They have mouths, and speak not *
eyes have they, but they see not.
- 17 They have ears, and yet they hear not *
neither is there any breath in their mouths.
- 18 They that make them are like unto them *
and so are all they that put their trust in them.
- 19 Praise the Lord, ye house of Israel *
praise the Lord, ye house of Aaron.
- 20 Praise the Lord, ye house of Levi *
ye that fear the Lord, praise the Lord.
- 21 Praised be the Lord out of Sion *
who dwelleth at Jerusalem.

At the end of each psalm these words are said or sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

First Reading: Nehemiah 2

And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that wine was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had not been beforetime sad in his presence.

Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid, And said unto the king, Let the king live for ever: why should not my countenance be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' sepulchres, lieth waste, and the gates thereof are consumed with fire?

Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

And I said unto the king, If it please the king, and if thy servant have found favour in thy sight, that thou wouldest send me unto Judah, unto the city of my fathers' sepulchres, that I may build it.

And the king said unto me, (the queen also sitting by him,) For how long shall thy journey be? and when wilt thou return? So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.

Moreover I said unto the king, If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah; And a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into. And the king granted me, according to the good hand of my God upon me.

Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, heard of it, it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass.

Magnificat

Either the Magnificat (as follows) or Cantate Domino (Psalm 98) is said or sung.

- 1 My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
- 2 For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
- 3 For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
- 6 He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Second Reading: John 8.31-38,48-59

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.

And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever.

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.

Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?

Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.

And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom makest thou thyself?

Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:

Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.

Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham?

Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.

Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

Nunc dimittis

Either the Nunc dimittis (as follows) or [Deus misereatur](#) (Psalm 67) is said or sung.

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;
- 3 Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;
- 4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

All **I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;**

**the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

All **And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the King.

All **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

All **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

All **And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All **Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

All **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Three Collects are said.

The Collect of the Day

Keep, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy: and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that, by thee, we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The order for the end of the service may include:

¶ *hymns or anthems*

¶ *a sermon*

¶ *further prayers (which may include prayers from [here](#))*

This prayer may be used to conclude the service

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

© [The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2004](#)

All of the official *Common Worship* publications are available from [Church House Publishing](#).

Implemented by Simon Kershaw at [Crucix](#).

Implementation copyright © Simon Kershaw, 2002-2020.

[View other services](#)

[Copy to clipboard](#)

Source URL: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/evening-prayer-traditional-sunday-25-september-2022>