

☩ Morning Prayer

from All Saints' Day until

the day before the First Sunday of Advent

Friday, 25 November 2022

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.

All 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.

All 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 139

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; □
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place □
and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 For there is not a word on my tongue, □
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You encompass me behind and before □
and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, □
so high that I cannot attain it. R

6 Where can I go then from your spirit? □
Or where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; □
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8 If I take the wings of the morning □
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9 Even there your hand shall lead me, □
your right hand hold me fast.

10 If I say, 'Surely the darkness will cover me □
and the light around me turn to night,'

11 Even darkness is no darkness with you;
the night is as clear as the day; □
darkness and light to you are both alike. R

12 For you yourself created my inmost parts; □
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

13 I thank you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; □
marvellous are your works, my soul knows well.

14 My frame was not hidden from you, □
when I was made in secret
and woven in the depths of the earth.

15 Your eyes beheld my form, as yet unfinished; □
already in your book were all my members written,

16 As day by day they were fashioned □
when as yet there was none of them.

17 How deep are your counsels to me, O God! □
How great is the sum of them!

18 If I count them, they are more in number than the sand, □
and at the end, I am still in your presence. R

19 O that you would slay the wicked, O God, □
that the bloodthirsty might depart from me!

20 They speak against you with wicked intent; □
your enemies take up your name for evil.

21 Do I not oppose those, O Lord, who oppose you? □
Do I not abhor those who rise up against you?

22 I hate them with a perfect hatred; □
they have become my own enemies also.

23 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; □
try me and examine my thoughts.

24 See if there is any way of wickedness in me □
and lead me in the way everlasting.

Refrain: Search me out, O God, and know my heart.

Creator God,
may every breath we take be for your glory,
may every footstep show you as our way,
that, trusting in your presence in this world,
we may, beyond this life, still be with you
where you are alive and reign
for ever and ever.

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 41.21 – 42.9

Set forth your case, says the Lord;
bring your proofs, says the King of Jacob.

Let them bring them, and tell us
what is to happen.

Tell us the former things, what they are,
so that we may consider them,

and that we may know their outcome;
or declare to us the things to come.

Tell us what is to come hereafter,
that we may know that you are gods;

do good, or do harm,
that we may be afraid and terrified.

You, indeed, are nothing
and your work is nothing at all;
whoever chooses you is an abomination.

I stirred up one from the north, and he has come,

from the rising of the sun he was summoned by name.

He shall trample on rulers as on mortar,

as the potter treads clay.

Who declared it from the beginning, so that we might know,

and beforehand, so that we might say, 'He is right'?

There was no one who declared it, none who proclaimed,

none who heard your words.

I first have declared it to Zion,

and I give to Jerusalem a herald of good tidings.

But when I look there is no one;

among these there is no counsellor

who, when I ask, gives an answer.

No, they are all a delusion;

their works are nothing;

their images are empty wind.

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,

my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him;

he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice,

or make it heard in the street;

a bruised reed he will not break,

and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed

until he has established justice in the earth;

and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,

who created the heavens and stretched them out,

who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it

and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,

a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
I am the Lord, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

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 I 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.'

2 Thus 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.

Revelation 17

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, 'Come, I will show you the judgement of the great whore who is seated on many waters, with whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and with the wine of whose fornication the inhabitants of the earth have become drunk.' So he carried me away in the spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. The woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her fornication; and on her forehead was written a name, a mystery: 'Babylon the great, mother of whores and of earth's abominations.' And I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints and the blood of the witnesses to Jesus.

When I saw her, I was greatly amazed. But the angel said to me, 'Why are you so amazed? I will tell you the mystery of the woman, and of the beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her. The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is about to ascend from the bottomless pit and go to destruction. And the inhabitants of the earth, whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will be amazed when they see the beast, because it was and is not and is to come.

'This calls for a mind that has wisdom: the seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman is seated; also, they are seven kings, of whom five have fallen, one is living, and the other has not yet come; and when he comes, he must remain for only a little while. As for the beast that was and is not, it is an eighth but it belongs to the seven, and it goes to destruction. And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. These are united in yielding their power and authority to the beast; they will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.'

And he said to me, 'The waters that you saw, where the whore is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the whore; they will make her desolate and naked; they will devour her flesh and burn her up with fire. For God has put it into their hearts to carry out his purpose by agreeing to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God will be fulfilled. The woman you saw is the great city that rules over the kings of the earth.'

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 Cantic

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.

7And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, □

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8To give his people knowledge of salvation □

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9In the tender compassion of our God □

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To 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

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.

Refrain:

AllYou 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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