

¶ Evening Prayer

Epiphany Season

Tuesday, 16 January 2024

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

Allo Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

Allyour glory is proclaimed in all the world.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

our light and our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

You gave your Christ as a light to the nations,

and through the anointing of the Spirit

you established us as a royal priesthood.

As you call us into your marvellous light,

may our lives bear witness to your truth

and our lips never cease to proclaim your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

AllBlessed be God for ever.

[A Song of God's Splendour \(page 561\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;

with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,

kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,

high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

J S B Monsell

(Tune: 13 10 13 10)

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.
AllAmen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 89.1-37

Refrain: Truly the Lord is our shield.

1 My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord: □
with my mouth will I proclaim your faithfulness
throughout all generations.

2 I will declare that your love is established for ever; □
you have set your faithfulness as firm as the heavens.

3 For you said: ‘I have made a covenant with my chosen one; □
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

4 ‘ “Your seed will I establish for ever □
and build up your throne for all generations.” ’ R

5 The heavens praise your wonders, O Lord, □
and your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones;

6 For who among the clouds can be compared to the Lord? □
Who is like the Lord among the host of heaven?

7 A God feared in the council of the holy ones, □
great and terrible above all those round about him.

8 Who is like you, Lord God of hosts? □
Mighty Lord, your faithfulness is all around you. R

9 You rule the raging of the sea; □
you still its waves when they arise.

10 You crushed Rahab with a deadly wound □
and scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.

11 Yours are the heavens; the earth also is yours; □
you established the world and all that fills it.

12 You created the north and the south; □
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in your name. R

13 You have a mighty arm; □

strong is your hand and high is your right hand.

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; □

steadfast love and faithfulness go before your face.

15 Happy are the people who know the shout of triumph: □

they walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance.

16 In your name they rejoice all the day long □

and are exalted in your righteousness.

17 For you are the glory of their strength, □

and in your favour you lift up our heads.

18 Truly the Lord is our shield; □

the Holy One of Israel is our king.

19 You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: □

‘I have set a youth above the mighty;

I have raised a young man over the people.

20 ‘I have found David my servant; □

with my holy oil have I anointed him.

21 ‘My hand shall hold him fast □

and my arm shall strengthen him.

22 ‘No enemy shall deceive him, □

nor any wicked person afflict him.

23 ‘I will strike down his foes before his face □

and beat down those that hate him.

24 ‘My truth also and my steadfast love shall be with him, □

and in my name shall his head be exalted.

25 ‘I will set his dominion upon the sea □

and his right hand upon the rivers.

26 ‘He shall call to me, “You are my Father, □

my God, and the rock of my salvation;”

27 'And I will make him my firstborn: □
the most high above the kings of the earth.

28 'The love I have pledged to him will I keep for ever, □
and my covenant will stand fast with him.

29 'His seed also will I make to endure for ever □
and his throne as the days of heaven. R

30 'But if his children forsake my law □
and cease to walk in my judgements,

31 'If they break my statutes □
and do not keep my commandments,

32 'I will punish their offences with a rod □
and their sin with scourges.

33 'But I will not take from him my steadfast love □
nor suffer my truth to fail.

34 'My covenant will I not break □
nor alter what has gone out of my lips.

35 'Once for all have I sworn by my holiness □
that I will not prove false to David.

36 'His seed shall endure for ever □
and his throne as the sun before me;

37 'It shall stand fast for ever as the moon, □
the enduring witness in the heavens.'

Refrain: Truly the Lord is our shield.

As we sing of your love, O Lord,
anoint us with the Spirit's seal,
that we may praise your faithfulness
and proclaim your truth from age to age;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

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.

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

Amos 7

This is what the Lord God showed me: he was forming locusts at the time the latter growth began to sprout (it was the latter growth after the king's mowings).

When they had finished eating the grass of the land, I said,

‘O Lord God, forgive, I beg you!

How can Jacob stand?

He is so small!’

The Lord relented concerning this;

‘It shall not be,’ said the Lord.

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord God was calling for a shower of fire, and it devoured the great deep and was eating up the land. Then I said,

‘O Lord God, cease, I beg you!

How can Jacob stand?

He is so small!’

The Lord relented concerning this;

‘This also shall not be,’ said the Lord God.

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A plumb-line.’ Then the Lord said,

‘See, I am setting a plumb-line

in the midst of my people Israel;

I will never again pass them by;

the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,

and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.’

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, ‘Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,

and Israel must go into exile

away from his land.” ’

And Amaziah said to Amos, ‘O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.’

Then Amos answered Amaziah, ‘I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycomore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”

‘Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

You say, “Do not prophesy against Israel,

and do not preach against the house of Isaac.”

Therefore, thus says the Lord:

“Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,

and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,

and your land shall be parcelled out by line;

you yourself shall die in an unclean land,

and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.” ’

Canticle

A Song of Praise, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 63 \(page 621\)](#) or [number 71 \(page 629\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All You created all things, O God,

and are worthy of our praise for ever.

1 You are worthy, our Lord and God, ☩

to receive glory and honour and power.

2 For you have created all things, ☩

and by your will they have their being.

3 You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain, ☩

and by your blood you ransomed for God

saints from every tribe and language and nation.

4 You have made them to be a kingdom and priests

serving our God, ☩

and they will reign with you on earth.

AllTo the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb ☩
be blessing and honour and glory and might, for ever and ever. Amen.

AllYou created all things, O God,
and are worthy of our praise for ever.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

1 Corinthians 6.12-end

‘All things are lawful for me’, but not all things are beneficial. ‘All things are lawful for me’, but I will not be dominated by anything. ‘Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food’, and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, ‘The two shall be one flesh.’ But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

Arise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

AllArise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

God’s salvation has been openly shown to all people.

AllThe glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

AllArise, shine, for your light has come;
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

from Isaiah 60

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,
or [A Song of Christ's Appearing \(page 621\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All Behold, my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ☩
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

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

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ☩
from generation to generation.

4 He has shown strength with his arm ☩
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ☩
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things ☩
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ☩
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The 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:

AllBehold, my servant, whom I uphold,

my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.

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 unity of the Church
- ¶ The peace of the world
- ¶ The healing of the sick
- ¶ The revelation of Christ to those from whom his glory is hidden
- ¶ All who travel

A form of prayer found [on page 379](#) 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,

in Christ you make all things new:

transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,

and in the renewal of our lives

make known your heavenly glory;

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.
AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Believing the promises of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

AllOur 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)

Believing the promises of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

AllOur 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 sends us to the nations,

give us the power of his Spirit.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord.

AllThanks be to God.

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