

Evening Prayer from

The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday, 11 February 2024

Quinquagesima

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

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 2

1 Why do the heathen so furiously rage together *
and why do the people imagine a vain thing?

2 The kings of the earth stand up, and the rulers take counsel together *
against the Lord, and against his Anointed.

3 Let us break their bonds asunder *
and cast away their cords from us.

4 He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn *
the Lord shall have them in derision.

- 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath *
and vex them in his sore displeasure.
- 6 Yet have I set my King *
upon my holy hill of Sion.
- 7 I will preach the law, whereof the Lord hath said unto me *
Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.
- 8 Desire of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance *
and the utmost parts of the earth for thy possession.
- 9 Thou shalt bruise them with a rod of iron *
and break them in pieces like a potter's vessel.
- 10 Be wise now therefore, O ye kings *
be learned, ye that are judges of the earth.
- 11 Serve the Lord in fear *
and rejoice unto him with reverence.
- 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and so ye perish from the right way *
if his wrath be kindled, (yea, but a little,) blessed are all they that put their trust
in him.

Psalm [99]

[

- 1 The Lord is King, be the people never so impatient *
he sitteth between the cherubims, be the earth never so unquiet.
- 2 The Lord is great in Sion *
and high above all people.
- 3 They shall give thanks unto thy Name *
which is great, wonderful, and holy.

- 4 The king's power loveth judgement; thou hast prepared equity *
thou hast executed judgement and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 O magnify the Lord our God *
and fall down before his footstool, for he is holy.
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among such as call upon his
Name *
these called upon the Lord, and he heard them.
- 7 He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar *
for they kept his testimonies, and the law that he gave them.
- 8 Thou heardest them, O Lord our God *
thou forgavest them, O God, and punishedst their own inventions.
- 9 O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill *
for the Lord our God is holy.
-]

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.

Old Testament Reading

First Reading: 1 Kings 19.1-16

And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.

Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.

And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again.

And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake:

And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave. And, behold, the Lord came a voice unto him, and said, What doest thou here, Elijah?

And he said, I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and

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: 2 Peter 1.16-end

For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

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.

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

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; Send thy Holy Ghost and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake.

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.**

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