

¶ Evening Prayer

Lent

Thursday, 22 February 2024

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

All according to your judgement give us life.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts

to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God

in the face of Jesus Christ.

Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,

that freed from the misery of sin and shame

we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of Entreaty \(page 568\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Lord Jesus, think on me,

and purge away my sin;

from earthborn passions set me free,

and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me

with many a care opprest;

let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

George the Sinner, tr: A W Chatfield
(Tune: SM)

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 137

Refrain: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, □
when we remembered Zion.

2 As for our lyres, we hung them up □
on the willows that grow in that land.

3 For there our captors asked for a song,
our tormentors called for mirth: □
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.' R

4 How shall we sing the Lord's song □
in a strange land?

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, □
let my right hand forget its skill.

6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth
if I do not remember you, □
if I set not Jerusalem above my highest joy. R

7 Remember, O Lord, against the people of Edom
the day of Jerusalem, □
how they said, 'Down with it, down with it,
even to the ground.'

8 O daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, □
happy the one who repays you
for all you have done to us;

9 Who takes your little ones, □
and dashes them against the rock.

Refrain: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

God of our pilgrimage,
you sent your Son to our strange land
to bring us home to you;
give us your songs to sing,
that even in our exile
we may be filled with the breath of the Spirit
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 138

Refrain: Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; □
before the gods will I sing praise to you.

2 I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your love and faithfulness; □
for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things.

3 In the day that I called to you, you answered me; □
you put new strength in my soul. R

4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, □
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, □
that great is the glory of the Lord.

6 Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; □
as for the proud, he regards them from afar. R

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you will preserve me; □
you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand will save me.

8 The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; □
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;
forsake not the work of your hands.

Refrain: Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.

Lord our God, supreme over all things,
look upon the humble and lowly
and put new strength into our souls
to complete your purpose for us
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 142

Refrain: Bring my soul out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name.

1 I cry aloud to the Lord; ☐
to the Lord I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before him ☐
and tell him of my trouble.

3 When my spirit faints within me, you know my path; ☐
in the way wherein I walk have they laid a snare for me.

4 I look to my right hand, and find no one who knows me; ☐
I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for my soul. R

5 I cry out to you, O Lord, and say: ☐
'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

6 'Listen to my cry, for I am brought very low; ☐
save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

7 'Bring my soul out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name; ☐
when you have dealt bountifully with me,
then shall the righteous gather around me.'

Refrain: Bring my soul out of prison,
that I may give thanks to your name.

God of compassion,
you regard the forsaken
and give hope to the crushed in spirit;
hear those who cry to you in distress
and bring your ransomed people to sing your glorious praise,
now and for 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.

Jeremiah 6.9-21

Thus says the Lord of hosts:

Glean thoroughly as a vine
the remnant of Israel;
like a grape-gatherer, pass your hand again
over its branches.

To whom shall I speak and give warning,
that they may hear?

See, their ears are closed,
they cannot listen.

The word of the Lord is to them an object of scorn;
they take no pleasure in it.

But I am full of the wrath of the Lord;
I am weary of holding it in.

Pour it out on the children in the street,
and on the gatherings of young men as well;
both husband and wife shall be taken,
the old folk and the very aged.

Their houses shall be turned over to others,
their fields and wives together;

for I will stretch out my hand
against the inhabitants of the land,

says the Lord.

For from the least to the greatest of them,

everyone is greedy for unjust gain;

and from prophet to priest,

everyone deals falsely.

They have treated the wound of my people carelessly,

saying, 'Peace, peace',

when there is no peace.

They acted shamefully, they committed abomination;

yet they were not ashamed,

they did not know how to blush.

Therefore they shall fall among those who fall;

at the time that I punish them, they shall be overthrown,

says the Lord.

Thus says the Lord:

Stand at the crossroads, and look,

and ask for the ancient paths,

where the good way lies; and walk in it,

and find rest for your souls.

But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

Also I raised up sentinels for you:

'Give heed to the sound of the trumpet!'

But they said, 'We will not give heed.'

Therefore hear, O nations,

and know, O congregation, what will happen to them.

Hear, O earth; I am going to bring disaster on this people,

the fruit of their schemes,

because they have not given heed to my words;

and as for my teaching, they have rejected it.

Of what use to me is frankincense that comes from Sheba,

or sweet cane from a distant land?

Your burnt-offerings are not acceptable,

nor are your sacrifices pleasing to me.

Therefore thus says the Lord:

See, I am laying before this people

stumbling-blocks against which they shall stumble;

parents and children together,

neighbour and friend shall perish.

Canticle

A Song of Christ the Servant, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 61 \(page 619\)](#) or [number 67 \(page 625\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.

1 Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, □
that you should follow in his steps.

2 He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips, □
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.

3 When he suffered, he did not threaten, □
but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.

4 Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, □
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

5 By his wounds, you have been healed,
for you were straying like sheep, □
but have now returned
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2.21b-25

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 Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

John 6.1-15

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

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 Cantic

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,
or [A Song of Praise \(page 627\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllCome, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.

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:

All Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.

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](#)

¶ Those preparing for baptism and confirmation

¶ Those serving through leadership

¶ Those looking for forgiveness

¶ Those misled by the false gods of this present age

¶ All who are hungry

A form of prayer found [on page 380](#) may be used.

The Litany [on pages 400-403](#) may be said instead of the Prayers.

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,

whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,

and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;

and, as you know our weakness,

so may we know your power to save;

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

Trusting in the compassion of God,
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)

Trusting in the compassion of God,
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 God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord.

AllThanks be to God.

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