

## ☩ Morning Prayer

**from the day after Ascension Day**

**until the Day of Pentecost**

**Wednesday, 15 May 2024**

### Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,

And clothe us with power from on high. Alleluia.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, creator God,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As your Spirit moved over the face of the waters

bringing light and life to your creation,

pour out your Spirit on us today

that we may walk as children of light

and by your grace reveal your presence.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or A Song of God's Righteousness

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul, ☩

and all that is within me bless his holy name.

2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, ☩

and forget not all his benefits;

3Who forgives all your sins ☐

and heals all your infirmities;

4Who redeems your life from the Pit ☐

and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;

5Who satisfies you with good things, ☐

so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

6The Lord executes righteousness ☐

and judgement for all who are oppressed.

7He made his ways known to Moses ☐

and his works to the children of Israel.

8The Lord has established his throne in heaven, ☐

and his kingdom has dominion over all.

9Bless the Lord, you angels of his, ☐

you mighty ones who do his bidding

and hearken to the voice of his word.

10Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, ☐

you ministers of his who do his will.

11Bless the Lord, all you works of his,

in all places of his dominion; ☐

bless the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 103.1-7, 19-22

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.  
All Amen.

## The Word of God

### Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

### Psalm 2

Refrain: The Lord is the strength of his people, a safe refuge for his anointed.

1 Why are the nations in tumult, □  
and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?

2 The kings of the earth rise 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.' R

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; □  
the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath □  
and terrify them in his fury:

6 'Yet have I set my king □  
upon my holy hill of Zion.' R

7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; □  
he said to me: 'You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

8 'Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance □  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' R

10 Now therefore be wise, O kings;  
be prudent, you judges of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet,  
lest he be angry and you perish from the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

12 Happy are all they  
who take refuge in him.

Refrain: The Lord is the strength of his people, a safe refuge for his anointed.

Most high and holy God,  
lift our eyes to your Son  
enthroned on Calvary;  
and as we behold his meekness,  
shatter our earthly pride;  
for he is Lord for ever and ever.

## Psalm 29

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters. R

4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf □  
and Sirion like a young wild ox. R

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; □  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare; □  
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'

9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; □  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; □  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Open our ears, glorious Lord Christ,  
to hear the music of your voice  
above the chaos of this world;  
open our eyes to see the vision of your glory,  
for you are our King, 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.

## **Numbers 23.13-end**

So Balak said to him, 'Come with me to another place from which you may see them; you shall see only part of them, and shall not see them all; then curse them for me from there.' So he took him to the field of Zophim, to the top of Pisgah. He built seven altars, and offered a bull and a ram on each altar. Balaam said to Balak, 'Stand here beside your burnt-offerings, while I meet the Lord over there.' The Lord met Balaam, put a word into his mouth, and said, 'Return to Balak, and this is what you shall say.' When he came to him, he was standing beside his burnt-offerings with the officials of Moab. Balak said to him, 'What has the Lord said?' Then

Balaam uttered his oracle, saying:

'Rise, Balak, and hear;

listen to me, O son of Zippor:

God is not a human being, that he should lie,  
or a mortal, that he should change his mind.

Has he promised, and will he not do it?

Has he spoken, and will he not fulfil it?

See, I received a command to bless;  
he has blessed, and I cannot revoke it.

He has not beheld misfortune in Jacob;  
nor has he seen trouble in Israel.

The Lord their God is with them,  
acclaimed as a king among them.

God, who brings them out of Egypt,  
is like the horns of a wild ox for them.

Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob,  
no divination against Israel;

now it shall be said of Jacob and Israel,  
"See what God has done!"

Look, a people rising up like a lioness,  
and rousing itself like a lion!

It does not lie down until it has eaten the prey  
and drunk the blood of the slain.'

Then Balak said to Balaam, 'Do not curse them at all, and do not bless them at all.' But Balaam answered Balak, 'Did I not tell you, "Whatever the Lord says, that is what I must do"?''

So Balak said to Balaam, 'Come now, I will take you to another place; perhaps it will please God that you may curse them for me from there.' So Balak took Balaam to the top of Peor, which overlooks the waste-land. Balaam said to Balak, 'Build me seven altars here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me.' So Balak did as Balaam had said, and offered a bull and a ram on each altar.

## Canticle

A Song of Ezekiel, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 45 \(page 597\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

AllThe Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.

1I will take you from the nations, ☩  
and gather you from all the countries.

2I will sprinkle clean water upon you, ☩  
and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses.

3A new heart I will give you, ☩  
and put a new spirit within you,

4And I will remove from your body the heart of stone ☩  
and give you a heart of flesh.

5You shall be my people, ☩  
and I will be your God.

Ezekiel 36.24-26, 28b

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.

AllThe Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## Luke 8.16-25

‘No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not become known and come to light. Then pay attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away.’

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, ‘Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.’ But he said to them, ‘My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it.’

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master,  
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we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

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

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people

All and kindle in us the fire of your love.

All who are led by the Spirit of God

are children of God and fellow-heirs with Christ.

All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.

Renew the face of your creation, Lord,

pouring on us the gifts of your Spirit,

All and kindle in us the fire of your love.

For the creation waits with eager longing

for the glorious liberty of the children of God.

All Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people

and kindle in us the fire of your love.

cf Romans 8

## Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,

or [The Song of Christ's Glory \(page 619\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All Christ has gone up on high

and has led captivity captive. Alleluia.

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.



5This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: □

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6Free 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:

AllChrist has gone up on high

and has led captivity captive. Alleluia.

## Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ for the day and its tasks

¶ for the world and its needs

¶ for the Church and her life

The [cycle on pages 364–365](#) and the [prayer on page 377](#) may be used. -->

Prayers may include the following concerns from the [cycle on pages 364–365](#)

¶ God's royal priesthood, for empowerment by the Spirit

¶ Those who wait on God, that they may find renewal

¶ All people, that they may acknowledge the kingdom of the ascended Christ

¶ The earth, for productivity and for fruitful harvests

¶ All who are struggling with broken relationships

A form of prayer found [on page 383](#) 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

O God the King of glory,

you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ

with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:

we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,

but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us

and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,

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

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,

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)

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,

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 the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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