

☩ Morning Prayer

from the day after Ascension Day

until the Day of Pentecost

Thursday, 16 May 2024

Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877 [Commemoration]

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.

2Bless 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 24

Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, □
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

2 For he has founded it upon the seas □
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep. R

3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, □
or who can rise up in his holy place?'

4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, □
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,
nor sworn an oath to a lie;

5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, □
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'

6 Such is the company of those who seek him, □
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. R

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; □
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 'Who is the King of glory?' □

'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; □
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 'Who is this King of glory?' □

'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.'

Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

O Lord of hosts,
purify our hearts
that the King of glory may come in,
your Son, Jesus our redeemer.

Psalm 72

Refrain: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

1 Give the king your judgements, O God, □
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

2 Then shall he judge your people righteously □
and your poor with justice.

3 May the mountains bring forth peace, □
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

4 May he defend the poor among the people, □
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. R

5 May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, □
from one generation to another.

6 May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, □
like the showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall righteousness flourish, □
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. R

8 May his dominion extend from sea to sea □
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

9 May his foes kneel before him □
and his enemies lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; □
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

11 All kings shall fall down before him; □
all nations shall do him service. R

12 For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, □
the needy and those who have no helper.

13 He shall have pity on the weak and poor; □
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, □
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. R

15 Long may he live;
unto him may be given gold from Sheba; □
may prayer be made for him continually
and may they bless him all the day long.

16 May there be abundance of grain on the earth,
standing thick upon the hilltops; □
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon
and its grain grow like the grass of the field.

17 May his name remain for ever
and be established as long as the sun endures; □
may all nations be blest in him
and call him blessed. R

18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, □
who alone does wonderful things.

19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever. □

May all the earth be filled with his glory.

Amen. Amen.

Refrain: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

May your kingdom come, O God,
with deliverance for the needy,
with peace for the righteous,
with overflowing blessing for all nations,
with glory, honour and praise
for Christ, the only Saviour.

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 24

Now Balaam saw that it pleased the Lord to bless Israel, so he did not go, as at other times, to look for omens, but set his face towards the wilderness. Balaam looked up and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe. Then the spirit of God came upon him, and he uttered his oracle, saying:

The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of the man whose eye is clear,
the oracle of one who hears the words of God,
who sees the vision of the Almighty,
who falls down, but with eyes uncovered:

how fair are your tents, O Jacob,
your encampments, O Israel!

Like palm groves that stretch far away,
like gardens beside a river,
like aloes that the Lord has planted,
like cedar trees beside the waters.

Water shall flow from his buckets,

and his seed shall have abundant water,
his king shall be higher than Agag,
and his kingdom shall be exalted.
God, who brings him out of Egypt,
is like the horns of a wild ox for him;
he shall devour the nations that are his foes
and break their bones.
He shall strike with his arrows.
He crouched, he lay down like a lion,
and like a lioness; who will rouse him up?
Blessed is everyone who blesses you,
and cursed is everyone who curses you.'

Then Balak's anger was kindled against Balaam, and he struck his hands together. Balak said to Balaam, 'I summoned you to curse my enemies, but instead you have blessed them these three times. Now be off with you! Go home! I said, "I will reward you richly", but the Lord has denied you any reward.' And Balaam said to Balak, 'Did I not tell your messengers whom you sent to me, "If Balak should give me his house full of silver and gold, I would not be able to go beyond the word of the Lord, to do either good or bad of my own will; what the Lord says, that is what I will say"? So now, I am going to my people; let me advise you what this people will do to your people in days to come.'

So he uttered his oracle, saying:

The oracle of Balaam son of Beor,
the oracle of the man whose eye is clear,
the oracle of one who hears the words of God,
and knows the knowledge of the Most High,
who sees the vision of the Almighty,
who falls down, but with his eyes uncovered:

I see him, but not now;

I behold him, but not near—
a star shall come out of Jacob,
and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel;
it shall crush the borderlands of Moab,
and the territory of all the Shethites.

Edom will become a possession,
Seir a possession of its enemies,
while Israel does valiantly.

One out of Jacob shall rule,
and destroy the survivors of Ir.'

Then he looked on Amalek, and uttered his oracle, saying:

'First among the nations was Amalek,
but its end is to perish for ever.'

Then he looked on the Kenite, and uttered his oracle, saying:

'Enduring is your dwelling-place,
and your nest is set in the rock;
yet Kain is destined for burning.
How long shall Asshur take you away captive?'

Again he uttered his oracle, saying:

'Alas, who shall live when God does this?
But ships shall come from Kittim
and shall afflict Asshur and Eber;
and he also shall perish for ever.'

Then Balaam got up and went back to his place, and Balak also went his way.

Canticle

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

Refrain:

All The Spirit of God fills the whole world. Alleluia.

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

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

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

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

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

Ezekiel 36.24-26, 28b

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 The 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 8.26-39

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'—for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for 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,
Alland kindle in us the fire of your love.
For the creation waits with eager longing
for the glorious liberty of the children of God.
AllCome, 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:

AllChrist has gone up on high
and has led captivity captive. Alleluia.

1Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, □
who has come to his people and set them free.

2He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, □
born of the house of his servant David.

3Through his holy prophets God promised of old □
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4To 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,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation □

by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God □

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To 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

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 Christ 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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