

¶ Evening Prayer on Saturday

Saturday, 25 May 2024

The Venerable Bede, Monk at Jarrow, Scholar, Historian, 735 [Lesser Festival]

Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, 709 [Commemoration]

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

[The Blessing of Light \(page 110\)](#) may replace the Preparation at Evening Prayer on any occasion.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

A prayer of thanksgiving (page 110),

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As darkness falls you renew your promise

to reveal among us the light of your presence.

By the light of Christ, your living Word,

dispel the darkness of our hearts

that we may walk as children of light

and sing your praise throughout the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All Blessed be God for ever.

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of God's Light

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation;

whom then shall I fear? ¶

The Lord is the strength of my life;

of whom then shall I be afraid?

2Though a host encamp against me,
my heart shall not be afraid, ☩
and though there rise up war against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.

3One thing have I asked of the Lord
and that alone I seek: ☩
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,

4To behold the fair beauty of the Lord ☩
and to seek his will in his temple.

5For in the day of trouble
he shall hide me in his shelter; ☩
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me
and set me high upon a rock.

6Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation
with great gladness; ☩
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Psalm 27.1, 3-6, 8

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

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 97

Refrain: You, Lord, are most high over all the earth.

1 The Lord is king: let the earth rejoice; □
let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him; □
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

3 Fire goes before him □
and burns up his enemies on every side. R

4 His lightnings lit up the world; □
the earth saw it and trembled.

5 The mountains melted like wax at the presence of the Lord, □
at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declared his righteousness □
and all the peoples have seen his glory. R

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images
and delight in mere idols. □
Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion heard and was glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoiced, □
because of your judgements, O Lord.

9 For you, Lord, are most high over all the earth; □
you are exalted far above all gods. R

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; □
he preserves the lives of his faithful
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous □
and joy for the true of heart.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, □
and give thanks to his holy name.

Refrain: You, Lord, are most high over all the earth.

Most high and holy God,
enthroned in fire and light,
burn away the dross of our lives
and kindle in us the fire of your love,
that our lives may reveal the light and life
we find in your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 98

Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.

1 Sing to the Lord a new song, □
for he has done marvellous things.

2 His own right hand and his holy arm □
have won for him the victory.

3 The Lord has made known his salvation; □
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.

4 He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness
towards the house of Israel, □
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. R

5 Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; □
break into singing and make music.

6 Make music to the Lord with the lyre, □
with the lyre and the voice of melody.

7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn □
sound praises before the Lord, the King. R

8 Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, □
the world and all that dwell upon it.

9 Let the rivers clap their hands □
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,
for he comes to judge the earth.

10 In righteousness shall he judge the world □
and the peoples with equity.

Refrain: The Lord has made known his salvation.

Lord God, just and true,
you make your salvation known in the sight of the nations;
tune the song of our hearts to the music of creation
as you come among us to judge the earth;
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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.

Isaiah 40.12-end

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand
and marked off the heavens with a span,
enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure,
and weighed the mountains in scales
and the hills in a balance?

Who has directed the spirit of the Lord,
or as his counsellor has instructed him?

Whom did he consult for his enlightenment,
and who taught him the path of justice?

Who taught him knowledge,

and showed him the way of understanding?

Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket,

and are accounted as dust on the scales;

see, he takes up the isles like fine dust.

Lebanon would not provide fuel enough,

nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering.

All the nations are as nothing before him;

they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

To whom then will you liken God,

or what likeness compare with him?

An idol? —A workman casts it,

and a goldsmith overlays it with gold,

and casts for it silver chains.

As a gift one chooses mulberry wood

—wood that will not rot—

then seeks out a skilled artisan

to set up an image that will not topple.

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

'My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God'?

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint.

Canticle

A Song of God's Love, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 53 \(page 606\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All God's love was revealed among us

so that we might live through Jesus. Alleluia.

1 Beloved, let us love one another,

for love is of God; ☩

everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

2Whoever does not love does not know God, □
for God is love.

3In this the love of God was revealed among us, □
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.

4In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us, □
and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

5Beloved, since God loved us so much, □
we ought also to love one another.

6For if we love one another, God abides in us, □
and God's love will be perfected in us.

1 John 4.7-11, 12b

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.

AllGod's love was revealed among us
so that we might live through Jesus. Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Mark 1.1-13

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight” ’,

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

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

Your salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

All Your salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

All That glory may dwell in our land.

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

All Your salvation is near to those who fear you;
that glory may dwell in our land.

from Psalm 85

Gospel Cantic

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

Refrain:

All You have left all things and followed me:
you will be rewarded a hundred times over and gain eternal life. Alleluia.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

8The promise made to our ancestors, □
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

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:

AllYou have left all things and followed me:
you will be rewarded a hundred times over and gain eternal life. Alleluia.

Prayers

Thanksgiving may be made for the day.

Intercessions are offered

¶ for peace

¶ for individuals and their needs

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 362–363](#)

- ¶ Our homes, families, friends and all whom we love
- ¶ Those whose time is spent caring for others
- ¶ Those who are close to death
- ¶ Those who have lost hope
- ¶ The worship of the Church

One of the forms of prayer found [on pages 362–371](#) 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 and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended from all adversities;
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

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)

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

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

AllThanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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