

## ¶ Evening Prayer on Wednesday

**Wednesday, 10 July 2024**

### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

AllO 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:

AllBlessed be God for ever.

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of God's Descending

1I love you, O Lord my strength. □

The Lord is my crag, my fortress and my deliverer.

2In my distress I called upon the Lord □

and cried out to my God for help.

3He heard my voice in his temple □

and my cry came to his ears.

4He parted the heavens and came down □  
and thick darkness was under his feet.

5He rode upon the cherubim and flew; □  
he came flying on the wings of the wind.

6He made darkness his covering round about him, □  
dark waters and thick clouds his pavilion.

7From the brightness of his presence, through the clouds □  
burst hailstones and coals of fire.

8The Lord also thundered out of heaven; □  
the Most High uttered his voice  
with hailstones and coals of fire.

9For you will save a lowly people □  
and bring down the high looks of the proud.

10You also shall light my candle; □  
the Lord my God shall make my darkness to be bright.

11As for God, his way is perfect;  
the word of the Lord is tried in the fire; □  
he is a shield to all who trust in him.

Psalms 18:1, 6, 7, 10-14, 28, 29, 31

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.

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.

All Amen.

## The Word of God

### Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

### Psalm 136

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, □

*for his mercy endures for ever.*

2 Give thanks to the God of gods, □

*for his mercy endures for ever.*

3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

4 Who alone does great wonders, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

6 Who laid out the earth upon the waters, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

7 Who made the great lights, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

8 The sun to rule the day, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

10 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, □

*for his mercy endures for ever;*

11 And brought out Israel from among them, □  
for his mercy endures for ever;

12 With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

13 Who divided the Red Sea in two, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

15 But Pharaoh and his host he overthrew in the Red Sea, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

16 Who led his people through the wilderness, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

17 Who smote great kings, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

18 And slew mighty kings, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

19 Sihon, king of the Amorites, □  
for his mercy endures for ever;

20 And Og, the king of Bashan, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

21 And gave away their land for a heritage, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

22 A heritage for Israel his servant, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

23 Who remembered us when we were in trouble, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

24 And delivered us from our enemies, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever;*

25 Who gives food to all creatures, □  
*for his mercy endures for ever.*

26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, □

*for his mercy endures for ever.*

Remember us, O God, and shape our history,

form our inward eyes

to see the shadow of the life-giving cross

in the turbulence of our time;

for his sake who died for all,

Christ our Lord.

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.

## **Ezekiel 12.1-16**

The word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, you are living in the midst of a rebellious house, who have eyes to see but do not see, who have ears to hear but do not hear; for they are a rebellious house. Therefore, mortal, prepare for yourself an exile's baggage, and go into exile by day in their sight; you shall go like an exile from your place to another place in their sight. Perhaps they will understand, though they are a rebellious house. You shall bring out your baggage by day in their sight, as baggage for exile; and you shall go out yourself at evening in their sight, as those do who go into exile. Dig through the wall in their sight, and carry the baggage through it. In their sight you shall lift the baggage on your shoulder, and carry it out in the dark; you shall cover your face, so that you may not see the land; for I have made you a sign for the house of Israel.

I did just as I was commanded. I brought out my baggage by day, as baggage for exile, and in the evening I dug through the wall with my own hands; I brought it out in the dark, carrying it on my shoulder in their sight.

In the morning the word of the Lord came to me: Mortal, has not the house of Israel, the rebellious house, said to you, 'What are you doing?' Say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God: This oracle concerns the prince in Jerusalem and all the house of Israel in it.' Say, 'I am a sign for you: as I have done, so shall it be done to them; they shall go into exile, into captivity.' And the prince who is among them shall lift his baggage on his shoulder in the dark, and shall go out; he shall dig through the wall and carry it through; he shall cover his face, so that he may not see the land with his eyes. I will spread my net over him, and he shall be caught in my snare; and I will bring him to Babylon, the land of the Chaldeans, yet he shall not see it; and he shall die there. I will scatter to every wind all who are around him, his helpers and all his troops; and I will unsheathe the sword behind them. And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I disperse them among the nations and scatter them through the countries. But I will let a few of them escape from the sword, from famine and pestilence, so that they may tell of all their abominations among the nations where they go; then they shall know that I am the Lord.

## Canticle

A Song of the Blessed, or another suitable canticle,  
for example, [number 69 \(page 627\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Rejoice and be glad  
for you are the light of the world,  
and great is your reward in heaven.

1 Blessed are the poor in spirit, □  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2 Blessed are those who mourn, □  
for they shall be comforted.

3 Blessed are the meek, □  
for they shall inherit the earth.

4 Blessed are those who hunger  
and thirst after righteousness, □  
for they shall be satisfied.

5 Blessed are the merciful, □  
for they shall obtain mercy.

6 Blessed are the pure in heart, □  
for they shall see God.

7 Blessed are the peacemakers, □  
for they shall be called children of God.

8 Blessed are those who suffer persecution  
for righteousness' sake, □  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5.3-10

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 Rejoice and be glad  
for you are the light of the world,  
and great is your reward in heaven.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## 2 Corinthians 8.1-15

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints—and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you. Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking.

I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something—now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written,

‘The one who had much did not have too much,  
and the one who had little did not have too little.’

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

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.

For I am always with you;  
you hold me by my right hand.

All And afterwards receive me with glory.

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

All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel  
and afterwards receive me with glory.

from Psalm 73

## Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,  
or the Nunc dimittis ([The Song of Simeon](#)) (page 613) may be said

All Remember your promise of mercy,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

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.

All Remember your promise of mercy,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

## 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 362–363](#)

¶ The social services

¶ All who work in the criminal justice system

¶ Victims and perpetrators of crime

¶ The work of aid agencies throughout the world

¶ Those living in poverty or under oppression

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

Merciful God,

you have prepared for those who love you

such good things as pass our understanding:

pour into our hearts such love toward you

that we, loving you in all things and above all things,

may obtain your promises,

which exceed all that we can desire;  
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.

All Thanks be to God.

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