

## ☩ Morning Prayer on Wednesday

**Wednesday, 18 September 2024**

### Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

[The Acclamation of Christ at the Dawning of the Day \(page 108\)](#) may replace the Preparation as the start of Morning Prayer on any occasion.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

One of these prayers of thanksgiving (page 109),

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

You founded the earth in the beginning

and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,

and in these last days you have spoken to us

in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us

let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,

your Spirit ever renew our lives

and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

(or)

Blessed are you, creator of all,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As your dawn renews the face of the earth

bringing light and life to all creation,

may we rejoice in this day you have made;

as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,

open our eyes to behold your presence

and strengthen our hands to do your will,  
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
All Blessed be God for ever.

after Lancelot Andrewes (1626)

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of God's Glorious Name

1 O Lord our governor, ☩  
how glorious is your name in all the world!

2 Your majesty above the heavens is praised ☩  
out of the mouths of babes at the breast.

3 You have founded a stronghold against your foes, ☩  
that you might still the enemy and the avenger.

4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, ☩  
the moon and the stars that you have ordained,

5 What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them; ☩  
mere human beings, that you should seek them out?

6 You have made them little lower than the angels ☩  
and crown them with glory and honour.

7 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands ☩  
and put all things under their feet,

8 All sheep and oxen, ☩  
even the wild beasts of the field,

9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea ☩  
and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea.

10 O Lord our governor, ☩  
how glorious is your name in all the world!

Psalm 8

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

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 119.57-80**

Refrain: I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right.

57 You only are my portion, O Lord; □

I have promised to keep your words.

58 I entreat you with all my heart, □

be merciful to me according to your promise.

59 I have considered my ways □

and turned my feet back to your testimonies.

60 I made haste and did not delay □

to keep your commandments. R

61 Though the cords of the wicked entangle me, □

I do not forget your law.

62 At midnight I will rise to give you thanks, □  
because of your righteous judgements.

63 I am a companion of all those who fear you, □  
those who keep your commandments.

64 The earth, O Lord, is full of your faithful love; □  
instruct me in your statutes. R

65 You have dealt graciously with your servant, □  
according to your word, O Lord.

66 O teach me true understanding and knowledge, □  
for I have trusted in your commandments.

67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, □  
but now I keep your word.

68 You are gracious and do good; □  
O Lord, teach me your statutes. R

69 The proud have smeared me with lies, □  
but I will keep your commandments with my whole heart.

70 Their heart has become gross with fat, □  
but my delight is in your law.

71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted, □  
that I may learn your statutes.

72 The law of your mouth is dearer to me □  
than a hoard of gold and silver. R

73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me; □  
give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

74 Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, □  
because I have hoped in your word.

75 I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right, □  
and that in very faithfulness you caused me to be troubled.

76 Let your faithful love be my comfort, □  
according to your promise to your servant. R

77 Let your tender mercies come to me, that I may live, □  
for your law is my delight.

78 Let the proud be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies; □  
but I will meditate on your commandments.

79 Let those who fear you turn to me, □  
even those who know your testimonies.

80 Let my heart be sound in your statutes, □  
that I may not be put to shame.

Refrain: I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right.

God our comforter,  
send your Holy Spirit  
to reveal your hidden mercy  
even in our failures and troubles;  
for the sake of Jesus 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.

## 1 Kings 17

Now Elijah the Tishbite, of Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, 'As the Lord the God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor rain these years, except by my word.' The word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Go from here and turn eastwards, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. You shall drink from the wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.' So he went and did according to the word of the Lord; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the wadi. But after a while the wadi dried up, because there was no rain in the land.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.' So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, 'Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.' As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, 'Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' But she said, 'As the Lord your God

lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.' Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.' She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill; his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. She then said to Elijah, 'What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to cause the death of my son!' But he said to her, 'Give me your son.' He took him from her bosom, carried him up into the upper chamber where he was lodging, and laid him on his own bed. He cried out to the Lord, 'O Lord my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I am staying, by killing her son?' Then he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried out to the Lord, 'O Lord my God, let this child's life come into him again.' The Lord listened to the voice of Elijah; the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. Elijah took the child, brought him down from the upper chamber into the house, and gave him to his mother; then Elijah said, 'See, your son is alive.' So the woman said to Elijah, 'Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is truth.'

## Canticle

A Song of the Word of the Lord, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 35 \(page 586\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Return to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

1 Seek the Lord while he may be found, □  
call upon him while he is near;

2 Let the wicked abandon their ways, □  
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

3 Return to the Lord, who will have mercy; □  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

4 'For my thoughts are not your thoughts, □  
neither are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

5 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, □  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

6 'As the rain and the snow come down from above, □  
and return not again but water the earth,

7'Bringing forth life and giving growth, □  
seed for sowing and bread to eat,

8'So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; □  
it will not return to me fruitless,

9'But it will accomplish that which I purpose, □  
and succeed in the task I gave it.'

Isaiah 55.6-11

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.

AllReturn to the Lord, who will have mercy,  
to our God, who will richly pardon.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## Acts 20.1-16

After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples; and after encouraging them and saying farewell, he left for Macedonia. When he had gone through those regions and had given the believers much encouragement, he came to Greece, where he stayed for three months. He was about to set sail for Syria when a plot was made against him by the Jews, and so he decided to return through Macedonia. He was accompanied by Sopater son of Pyrrhus from Beroea, by Aristarchus and Secundus from Thessalonica, by Gaius from Derbe, and by Timothy, as well as by Tychicus and Trophimus from Asia. They went ahead and were waiting for us in Troas; but we sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and in five days we joined them in Troas, where we stayed for seven days.

On the first day of the week, when we met to break bread, Paul was holding a discussion with them; since he intended to leave the next day, he continued speaking until midnight. There were many lamps in the room upstairs where we were meeting. A young man named Eutychus, who was sitting in the window, began to sink off into a deep sleep while Paul talked still longer. Overcome by sleep, he fell to the ground three floors below and was picked up dead. But Paul went down, and bending over him took him in his arms, and said, 'Do not be alarmed, for his life is in him.' Then Paul went upstairs, and after he had broken bread and eaten, he continued to converse with them until dawn; then he left. Meanwhile they had taken the boy away alive and were not a little comforted.

We went ahead to the ship and set sail for Assos, intending to take Paul on board there; for he had made this arrangement, intending to go by land himself. When he met us in Assos, we took him on board and went to Mitylene. We sailed from there, and on the following day we arrived opposite Chios. The next day we touched at Samos, and the day after that we came to Miletus. For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he might not have to spend time in Asia; he was eager to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

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 Cantic

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

or [A Song of Redemption \(page 620\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All You show mercy to our ancestors,

and remember your holy covenant.

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,



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,

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:

AllYou show mercy to our ancestors,  
and remember your holy covenant.

## Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ for the day and its tasks

¶ for the world and its needs

¶ for the Church and her life

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

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers

of your people who call upon you;

and grant that they may both perceive and know

what things they ought to do,

and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;

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

AllOur 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

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord.

AllThanks be to God.

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