

¶ Evening Prayer

from All Saints' Day until

the day before the First Sunday of Advent

Thursday, 31 October 2024

Martin Luther, Reformer, 1546 [Commemoration]

Eve of All Saints' Day

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All They make known the glory of your kingdom.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

our light and our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

Now, as darkness is falling,

wash away our transgressions,

cleanse us by your refining fire

and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.

By the light of Christ,

dispel the darkness of our hearts

and make us ready to enter your kingdom,

where songs of praise for ever sound.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of Tobit \(page 596\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Give me the wings of faith to rise
within the veil, and see
the saints above, how great their joys,
how bright their glories be.

Once they were mourning here below,
and wet their couch with tears;
they wrestled hard, as we do now,
with sins and doubts and fears.

I ask them whence their victory came:
they, with united breath,
ascribe their conquest to the Lamb,
their triumph to his death.

They marked the footsteps that he trod,
his zeal inspired their breast,
and, following their incarnate God,
possess the promised rest.

Our glorious Leader claims our praise
for his own pattern given;
while the long cloud of witnesses
show the same path to heaven.

Isaac Watts

(Tune: CM)

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 1

Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.

1 Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked, □
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.

2 Their delight is in the law of the Lord □
and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither, □
whatever they do, it shall prosper. R

4 As for the wicked, it is not so with them; □
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgement, □
nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, □
but the way of the wicked shall perish.

Refrain: The Lord knows the way of the righteous.

Christ our wisdom,
give us delight in your law,
that we may bear fruits of patience and peace
in the kingdom of the righteous;
for your mercy's sake.

Psalm 5

Refrain: You, O Lord, will bless the righteous.

1 Give ear to my words, O Lord; □
consider my lamentation.

2 Hearken to the voice of my crying, my King and my God, □
for to you I make my prayer.

3 In the morning, Lord, you will hear my voice; □
early in the morning I make my appeal to you, and look up.

4 For you are the God who takes no pleasure in wickedness; □
no evil can dwell with you. R

5 The boastful cannot stand in your sight; □
you hate all those that work wickedness.

6 You destroy those who speak lies; □
the bloodthirsty and deceitful the Lord will abhor.

7 But as for me, through the greatness of your mercy,
I will come into your house; □
I will bow down towards your holy temple in awe of you. R

8 Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness,
because of my enemies; □
make your way straight before my face.

9 For there is no truth in their mouth,
in their heart is destruction, □
their throat is an open sepulchre,
and they flatter with their tongue.

10 Punish them, O God; □
let them fall through their own devices.

11 Because of their many transgressions cast them out, □
for they have rebelled against you. R

12 But let all who take refuge in you be glad; □

let them sing out their joy for ever.

13 You will shelter them, □

so that those who love your name may exult in you.

14 For you, O Lord, will bless the righteous; □

and with your favour you will defend them as with a shield.

Refrain: You, O Lord, will bless the righteous.

Lord, protect us from the deceit

of flattering tongues and lying lips;

give us words of life which speak your truth

and bless your name;

through 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.

Ecclesiasticus 44.1-15

Let us now sing the praises of famous men,

our ancestors in their generations.

The Lord apportioned to them great glory,

his majesty from the beginning.

There were those who ruled in their kingdoms,

and made a name for themselves by their valour;

those who gave counsel because they were intelligent;

those who spoke in prophetic oracles;

those who led the people by their counsels

and by their knowledge of the people's lore;

they were wise in their words of instruction;

those who composed musical tunes,

or put verses in writing;
rich men endowed with resources,
living peacefully in their homes—
all these were honoured in their generations,
and were the pride of their times.
Some of them have left behind a name,
so that others declare their praise.
But of others there is no memory;
they have perished as though they had never existed;
they have become as though they had never been born,
they and their children after them.
But these also were godly men,
whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten;
their wealth will remain with their descendants,
and their inheritance with their children's children.
Their descendants stand by the covenants;
their children also, for their sake.
Their offspring will continue for ever,
and their glory will never be blotted out.
Their bodies are buried in peace,
but their name lives on generation after generation.
The assembly declares their wisdom,
and the congregation proclaims their praise.

or [Isaiah 40.27-31](#)

Canticle

A Song of God's Assembled, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 70 \(page 628\)](#) or [number 73 \(page 631\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All
We have come before the throne of God
to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

1
We have come before God's holy mountain, ☩
to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.

2
We have come before countless angels making festival, ☩
before the assembly of the firstborn citizens of heaven.

3We have come before God, who is judge of all, □
before the spirits of the just made perfect.

4We have come before Jesus, □
the mediator of the new covenant.

5We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken: □
so let us give thanks and offer to God acceptable worship,

6Full of reverence and awe; □
for our God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12.22-24a, 28, 29

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.

AllWe have come before the throne of God
to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Revelation 19.6-10

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out,
'Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready;

to her it has been granted to be clothed
with fine linen, bright and pure'—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

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 Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,

or the [Nunc dimittis \(The Song of the Simeon\) \(page 613\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All The saints cried out with a loud voice:

Salvation to our God who sits on the throne,

and to the Lamb.

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.

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:

All The saints cried out with a loud voice:
Salvation to our God who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.

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 364–365](#)

¶ The saints on earth, that they may live as citizens of heaven

¶ All people, that they may hear and believe the word of God

¶ All who fear the winter months

¶ All sovereigns and political leaders, that they may imitate the righteous rule of Christ

¶ All who grieve or wait with the dying

A form of prayer found [on page 384](#) 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 God,

you have knit together your elect

in one communion and fellowship

in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:

grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints

in all virtuous and godly living

that we may come to those inexpressible joys

that you have prepared for those who truly love you;

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

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,

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)

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
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 Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,
bring us to reign with him in glory.
All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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