

☩ Morning Prayer

Epiphany Season

Saturday, 11 January 2025

Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa, 1915 [Commemoration]

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Your light springs up for the righteous

And all the peoples have seen your glory.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,

king of the nations,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

your name is proclaimed in all the world.

As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts

anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit

that we may witness to your gospel

and sing your praise in all the earth.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or Jubilate – A Song of Joy

1 O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; ☩

serve the Lord with gladness

and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know that the Lord is God; ☩

it is he that has made us and we are his;

we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise; ☩

give thanks to him and bless his name.

4 For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting, ☩

and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

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 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.

Psalm 150

Refrain: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

1 Alleluia.

O praise God in his holiness; □

praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; □

praise him according to his excellent greatness. R

3 Praise him with the blast of the trumpet; □

praise him upon the harp and lyre.

4 Praise him with timbrel and dances; □

praise him upon the strings and pipe. R

5 Praise him with ringing cymbals; □

praise him upon the clashing cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath □

praise the Lord.

Alleluia.

Refrain: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

God of life and love,

whose Son was victorious over sin and death,

make us alive with his life,

that the whole world may resound with your praise;

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.

Isaiah 66.1-11

Thus says the Lord:

Heaven is my throne

and the earth is my footstool;

what is the house that you would build for me,

and what is my resting-place?

All these things my hand has made,

and so all these things are mine,

says the Lord.

But this is the one to whom I will look,

to the humble and contrite in spirit,

who trembles at my word.

Whoever slaughters an ox is like one who kills a human being;

whoever sacrifices a lamb, like one who breaks a dog's neck;

whoever presents a grain-offering, like one who offers swine's blood;

whoever makes a memorial offering of frankincense, like one who blesses an idol.

These have chosen their own ways,

and in their abominations they take delight;

I also will choose to mock them,

and bring upon them what they fear;

because, when I called, no one answered,

when I spoke, they did not listen;

but they did what was evil in my sight,

and chose what did not please me.

Hear the word of the Lord,

you who tremble at his word:

Your own people who hate you

and reject you for my name's sake

have said, 'Let the Lord be glorified,

so that we may see your joy';

but it is they who shall be put to shame.

Listen, an uproar from the city!

A voice from the temple!

The voice of the Lord,

dealing retribution to his enemies!

Before she was in labour

she gave birth;

before her pain came upon her

she delivered a son.

Who has heard of such a thing?

Who has seen such things?

Shall a land be born in one day?

Shall a nation be delivered in one moment?

Yet as soon as Zion was in labour

she delivered her children.

Shall I open the womb and not deliver?

says the Lord;

shall I, the one who delivers, shut the womb?

says your God.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,

all you who mourn over her—

that you may nurse and be satisfied

from her consoling breast;

that you may drink deeply with delight

from her glorious bosom.

Canticle

A Song of the New Jerusalem, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 31 \(page 582\)](#) or [number 36 \(page 587\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All Above you the Holy One arises,

and above you God's glory appears.

1 Arise, shine out, for your light has come, ☩

the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

2 Though night still covers the earth, ☩

and darkness the peoples;

3Above you the Holy One arises, ☩
and above you God's glory appears.

4The nations will come to your light, ☩
and kings to your dawning brightness.

5Your gates will lie open continually, ☩
shut neither by day nor by night.

6The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, ☩
or ruin and devastation within your borders.

7You will call your walls, Salvation, ☩
and your gates, Praise.

8No more will the sun give you daylight, ☩
nor moonlight shine upon you;

9But the Lord will be your everlasting light, ☩
your God will be your splendour.

10For you shall be called the city of God, ☩
the dwelling of the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 60.1-3, 11a, 18, 19, 14b

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.

AllAbove you the Holy One arises,
and above you God's glory appears.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

2 John

The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth, and not only I but also all who know the truth, because of the truth that abides in us and will be with us for ever:

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, in truth and love.

I was overjoyed to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as we have been commanded by the Father. But now, dear lady, I ask you, not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but one we have had from the beginning, let us love one another. And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments; this is the commandment just as you have heard it from the beginning—you must walk in it.

Many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh; any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist! Be on your guard, so that you do not lose what we have worked for, but may receive a full reward. Everyone who does not abide in the teaching of Christ, but goes beyond it, does not have God; whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son. Do not receive into the house or welcome anyone who comes to you and does not bring this teaching; for to welcome is to participate in the evil deeds of such a person.

Although I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink; instead I hope to come to you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

The children of your elect sister send you their greetings.

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

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

All let the whole earth tremble before him.

Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.

All O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Tell out his salvation from day to day.

All let the whole earth tremble before him.

Declare his glory among the nations

and his wonders among all peoples.

All O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;

let the whole earth tremble before him.

from Psalm 96

Gospel Cantic

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said, or [A Song of the Blessed \(page 606\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All This is the Christ, the Chosen of God,

the one who will bring healing to the nations.

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,

4 To show mercy to our ancestors, □
and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: □
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear, □
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7 And 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 this is the Christ, the Chosen of God,
the one who will bring healing to the nations.

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 364–365](#)

- ¶ The unity of the Church
- ¶ The peace of the world
- ¶ The healing of the sick
- ¶ The revelation of Christ to those from whom his glory is hidden
- ¶ All who travel

A form of prayer found [on page 379](#) 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,
who by the leading of a star
manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth:
mercifully grant that we,
who know you now by faith,
may at last behold your glory face to face;
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.

AllAmen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Believing the promises of God,
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)

Believing the promises of God,
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 sends us to the nations,

give us the power of his Spirit.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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