

☩ Morning Prayer

Epiphany Season

Wednesday, 15 January 2025

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.

3Enter his gates with thanksgiving

and his courts with praise; □

give thanks to him and bless his name.

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

and his faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

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

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.

AllAmen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 19

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure

and gives light to the eyes.

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God □
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

2 One day pours out its song to another □
and one night unfolds knowledge to another.

3 They have neither speech nor language □
and their voices are not heard,

4 Yet their sound has gone out into all lands □
and their words to the ends of the world.

5 In them has he set a tabernacle for the sun, □
that comes forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber
and rejoices as a champion to run his course.

6 It goes forth from the end of the heavens
and runs to the very end again, □
and there is nothing hidden from its heat. R

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; □
the testimony of the Lord is sure
and gives wisdom to the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart; □
the commandment of the Lord is pure
and gives light to the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; □
the judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold, □
sweeter also than honey,
dripping from the honeycomb.

11 By them also is your servant taught □
and in keeping them there is great reward. R

12 Who can tell how often they offend? □
O cleanse me from my secret faults!

13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins

lest they get dominion over me; □

so shall I be undefiled,

and innocent of great offence.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable in your sight, □

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Refrain: The commandment of the Lord is pure

and gives light to the eyes.

Christ, the sun of righteousness,

rise in our hearts this day,

enfold us in the brightness of your love

and bear us at the last to heaven's horizon;

for your love's sake.

Psalm 20

Refrain: We will call on the name of the Lord our God.

1 May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble, □

the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

2 Send you help from his sanctuary □

and strengthen you out of Zion;

3 Remember all your offerings □

and accept your burnt sacrifice;

4 Grant you your heart's desire □

and fulfil all your mind.

5 May we rejoice in your salvation

and triumph in the name of our God; □

may the Lord perform all your petitions. R

6 Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed; □

he will answer him from his holy heaven,

with the mighty strength of his right hand.

7 Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, □
but we will call only on the name of the Lord our God.

8 They are brought down and fallen, □
but we are risen and stand upright.

9 O Lord, save the king □
and answer us when we call upon you.

Refrain: We will call on the name of the Lord our God.

Merciful God,
purify our hearts in the flame of your Spirit
and transform our toil into an offering of praise,
that we may reject the proud rule of might
and trust in Christ alone,
for he is our Lord for ever and ever.

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.

Amos 3

Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

You only have I known
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish you
for all your iniquities.

Do two walk together
unless they have made an appointment?

Does a lion roar in the forest,
when it has no prey?

Does a young lion cry out from its den,
if it has caught nothing?

Does a bird fall into a snare on the earth,
when there is no trap for it?

Does a snare spring up from the ground,
when it has taken nothing?

Is a trumpet blown in a city,
and the people are not afraid?

Does disaster befall a city,
unless the Lord has done it?

Surely the Lord God does nothing,
without revealing his secret
to his servants the prophets.

The lion has roared;
who will not fear?

The Lord God has spoken;
who can but prophesy?

Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod,
and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt,
and say, 'Assemble yourselves on Mount Samaria,
and see what great tumults are within it,
and what oppressions are in its midst.'

They do not know how to do right, says the Lord,
those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God:

An adversary shall surround the land,
and strip you of your defence;
and your strongholds shall be plundered.

Thus says the Lord: As the shepherd rescues from the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who live in Samaria be rescued,
with the corner of a couch and part of a bed.

Hear, and testify against the house of Jacob,
says the Lord God, the God of hosts:

On the day I punish Israel for its transgressions,
I will punish the altars of Bethel,

and the horns of the altar shall be cut off

and fall to the ground.

I will tear down the winter house as well as the summer house;

and the houses of ivory shall perish,

and the great houses shall come to an end,

says the Lord.

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:

1 Above you the Holy One arises,

and above you God's glory appears.

2 Arise, shine out, for your light has come, □

the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

3 Though night still covers the earth, □

and darkness the peoples;

4 Above you the Holy One arises, □

and above you God's glory appears.

5 The nations will come to your light, □

and kings to your dawning brightness.

6 Your gates will lie open continually, □

shut neither by day nor by night.

7 The sound of violence shall be heard no longer in your land, □

or ruin and devastation within your borders.

8 You will call your walls, Salvation, □

and your gates, Praise.

9 No more will the sun give you daylight, □

nor moonlight shine upon you;

10 But 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.

1 Corinthians 2

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,

nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him'—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

'For who has known the mind of the Lord

so as to instruct him?'

But we have the mind of Christ.

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 Canticle

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,

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:

AllThis 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

Eternal Father,

who at the baptism of Jesus

revealed him to be your Son,

anointing him with the Holy Spirit:

grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,

that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;

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

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.

© [The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000–2005](#)

Official Common Worship apps, books and eBooks are available from [Church House Publishing](#).

The Bible readings (other than the psalms) are from *The New Revised Standard Version Anglicized Edition*, copyright 1989, 1995 Division of Christian Education of the [National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America](#). Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Implemented by Simon Kershaw at [Crucix](#).

Implementation copyright © Simon Kershaw, 2002–2021.

[View other services](#)

Source URL: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-in-daily-prayer/morning-prayer-contemporary-wednesday-15-january-2025>