

## ¶ Evening Prayer

### Epiphany Season

Sunday, 26 January 2025

### The Third Sunday of Epiphany

#### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

AllO Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

All your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

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.

You gave your Christ as a light to the nations,

and through the anointing of the Spirit

you established us as a royal priesthood.

As you call us into your marvellous light,

may our lives bear witness to your truth

and our lips never cease to proclaim your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of God's Splendour \(page 561\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;

with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,

kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,  
comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness,  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:  
truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,  
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,  
he will accept for the name that is dear;  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!  
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;  
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,  
kneel and adore him, the Lord is his name!

J S B Monsell

(Tune: 13 10 13 10)

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 33.1-12 [13-end]

Refrain: The earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord.

1 Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, □  
for it is good for the just to sing praises.

2 Praise the Lord with the lyre; □  
on the ten-stringed harp sing his praise.

3 Sing for him a new song; □  
play skilfully, with shouts of praise.

4 For the word of the Lord is true □  
and all his works are sure.

5 He loves righteousness and justice; □  
the earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord. R

6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made □  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

7 He gathers up the waters of the sea as in a waterskin □  
and lays up the deep in his treasury.

8 Let all the earth fear the Lord; □  
stand in awe of him, all who dwell in the world.

9 For he spoke, and it was done; □  
he commanded, and it stood fast. R

10 The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to naught; □  
he frustrates the designs of the peoples.

11 But the counsel of the Lord shall endure for ever □  
and the designs of his heart from generation to generation.

12 Happy the nation whose God is the Lord □  
and the people he has chosen for his own. R

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13 The Lord looks down from heaven □  
and beholds all the children of earth.

14 From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze □  
on all who dwell on the earth.

15 He fashions all the hearts of them □  
and understands all their works.

16 No king is saved by the might of his host; □  
no warrior delivered by his great strength.

17 A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; □  
for all its strength it cannot save. R

18 Behold, the eye of the Lord  
is upon those who fear him, □  
on those who wait in hope for his steadfast love,

19 To deliver their soul from death □  
and to feed them in time of famine.

20 Our soul waits longingly for the Lord; □  
he is our help and our shield.

21 Indeed, our heart rejoices in him; □  
in his holy name have we put our trust.

22 Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, □  
as we have set our hope on you.

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Refrain: The earth is full of the loving-kindness of the Lord.

Feed your people, Lord,  
with your holy word  
and free us from the emptiness of our  
wrongful desires,  
that we may sing the new song of salvation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

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.

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

## Numbers 9.15-end

On the day the tabernacle was set up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the covenant; and from evening until morning it was over the tabernacle, having the appearance of fire. It was always so: the cloud covered it by day and the appearance of fire by night. Whenever the cloud lifted from over the tent, then the Israelites would set out; and in the place where the cloud settled down, there the Israelites would camp. At the command of the Lord the Israelites would set out, and at the command of the Lord they would camp. As long as the cloud rested over the tabernacle, they would remain in camp. Even when the cloud continued over the tabernacle for many days, the Israelites would keep the charge of the Lord, and would not set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain for a few days over the tabernacle, and according to the command of the Lord they would remain in camp; then according to the command of the Lord they would set out. Sometimes the cloud would remain from evening until morning; and when the cloud lifted in the morning, they would set out, or if it continued for a day and a night, when the cloud lifted they would set out. Whether it was two days, or a month, or a longer time, that the cloud continued over the tabernacle, resting upon it, the Israelites would remain in camp and would not set out; but when it lifted they would set out. At the command of the Lord they would camp, and at the command of the Lord they would set out. They kept the charge of the Lord, at the command of the Lord by Moses.

## Canticle

A Song of Praise, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 63 \(page 621\)](#) or [number 71 \(page 629\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

AllYou created all things, O God,  
and are worthy of our praise for ever.

1You are worthy, our Lord and God, ☩  
to receive glory and honour and power.

2For you have created all things, ☩  
and by your will they have their being.

3You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain, ☩  
and by your blood you ransomed for God  
saints from every tribe and language and nation.

4You have made them to be a kingdom and priests  
serving our God, ☩  
and they will reign with you on earth.

Revelation 4.11; 5.9b, 10

AllTo the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb ☩  
be blessing and honour and glory and might, for ever and ever. Amen.

AllYou created all things, O God,  
and are worthy of our praise for ever.

## 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 7.17-24

However that may be, let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God called you. This is my rule in all the churches. Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; but obeying the commandments of God is everything. Let each of you remain in the condition in which you were called.

Were you a slave when called? Do not be concerned about it. Even if you can gain your freedom, make use of your present condition now more than ever. For whoever was called in the Lord as a slave is a freed person belonging to the Lord, just as whoever was free when called is a slave of Christ. You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of human masters. In whatever condition you were called, brothers and sisters, there remain with God.

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

Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

AllArise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

God's salvation has been openly shown to all people.

AllThe glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

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

AllArise, shine, for your light has come;

the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

from Isaiah 60

## Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,  
or [A Song of Christ's Appearing \(page 621\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllBehold, my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.

1My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; □  
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2From this day all generations will call me blessed; □  
the Almighty has done great things for me  
and holy is his name.

3He 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:

AllBehold, my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.

## 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 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



Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
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

AllOur 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

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

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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