

¶ Evening Prayer

Epiphany Season

Saturday, 1 February 2025

Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c.525 [Commemoration]

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 118

Refrain: I will give thanks to you,
for you have become my salvation.

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; □
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, □
'His mercy endures for ever.'

3 Let the house of Aaron now proclaim, □
'His mercy endures for ever.'

4 Let those who fear the Lord proclaim, □
'His mercy endures for ever.' R

5 In my constraint I called to the Lord; □
the Lord answered and set me free.

6 The Lord is at my side; I will not fear; □
what can flesh do to me?

7 With the Lord at my side as my saviour, □
I shall see the downfall of my enemies.

8 It is better to take refuge in the Lord □
than to put any confidence in flesh.

9 It is better to take refuge in the Lord □
than to put any confidence in princes. R

10 All the nations encompassed me, □
but by the name of the Lord I drove them back.

11 They hemmed me in, they hemmed me in on every side, □
but by the name of the Lord I drove them back.

12 They swarmed about me like bees;
they blazed like fire among thorns, □
but by the name of the Lord I drove them back.

13 Surely, I was thrust to the brink, □
but the Lord came to my help. R

14 The Lord is my strength and my song, □
and he has become my salvation.

15 Joyful shouts of salvation □
sound from the tents of the righteous:

16 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;
the right hand of the Lord raises up; □
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'

17 I shall not die, but live □
and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely, □
but he has not given me over to death. R

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, □
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord; □
the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me □
and have become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected □
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing, □
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made; □
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray. □
Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; ☩

we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 The Lord is God; he has given us light; ☩

link the pilgrims with cords

right to the horns of the altar. R

28 You are my God and I will thank you; ☩

you are my God and I will exalt you.

29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; ☩

his mercy endures for ever.

Refrain: I will give thanks to you,

for you have become my salvation.

Saving God,

open the gates of righteousness,

that your pilgrim people may enter

and be built into a living temple

on the cornerstone of our salvation,

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 Samuel 1.19b-end

They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.'

Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained

and nursed her son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.'

She left him there for the Lord.

Canticle

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

Refrain:

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

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

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

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

4 You 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

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

All You 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.

Hebrews 4.11-end

Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one may fall through such disobedience as theirs.

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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.

All Arise, 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.

All The glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

All Arise, shine, for your light has come;

the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.

from Isaiah 60

Gospel Cantic

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

Refrain:

All Behold, my servant, whom I uphold,

my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

the anointed one on whom my Spirit rests.

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.

4 He has shown strength with his arm □
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones □
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things □
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, □
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The promise made to our ancestors, □
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

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 Behold, 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 and ever-living God,

clothed in majesty,

whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,

in substance of our flesh:

grant that we may be presented to you

with pure and clean hearts,

by your Son Jesus Christ 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.

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