

¶ Evening Prayer on Sunday

Sunday, 9 February 2025

The Fourth Sunday before Lent

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

AllO Lord, make haste to help us.

[The Blessing of Light \(page 110\)](#) may replace the Preparation at Evening Prayer on any occasion.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

A prayer of thanksgiving (page 110),

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As darkness falls you renew your promise

to reveal among us the light of your presence.

By the light of Christ, your living Word,

dispel the darkness of our hearts

that we may walk as children of light

and sing your praise throughout the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

AllBlessed be God for ever.

or a suitable hymn,

or A Song of Worship

1Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, □

you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

2Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary □

and bless the Lord.

3The Lord who made heaven and earth □
give you blessing out of Zion.

Psalm 134

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

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 2

Refrain: The Lord is the strength of his people, a safe refuge for his anointed.

1 Why are the nations in tumult, □
and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?

2 The kings of the earth rise up,
and the rulers take counsel together, □
against the Lord and against his anointed:

3 'Let us break their bonds asunder □
and cast away their cords from us.' R

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; □
the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath □
and terrify them in his fury:

6 'Yet have I set my king □
upon my holy hill of Zion.' R

7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; □
he said to me: 'You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.

8 'Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance □
and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron □
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' R

10 Now therefore be wise, O kings; □
be prudent, you judges of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet, □
lest he be angry and you perish from the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

12 Happy are all they □
who take refuge in him.

Refrain: The Lord is the strength of his people, a safe refuge for his anointed.

Most high and holy God,
lift our eyes to your Son
enthroned on Calvary;
and as we behold his meekness,
shatter our earthly pride;
for he is 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.

Wisdom 6.1-21

Listen therefore, O kings, and understand;

learn, O judges of the ends of the earth.

Give ear, you that rule over multitudes,

and boast of many nations.

For your dominion was given you from the Lord,

and your sovereignty from the Most High;

he will search out your works and inquire into your plans.

Because as servants of his kingdom you did not rule rightly,

or keep the law,

or walk according to the purpose of God,

he will come upon you terribly and swiftly,

because severe judgement falls on those in high places.

For the lowliest may be pardoned in mercy,

but the mighty will be mightily tested.

For the Lord of all will not stand in awe of anyone,

or show deference to greatness;

because he himself made both small and great,

and he takes thought for all alike.

But a strict inquiry is in store for the mighty.

To you then, O monarchs, my words are directed,

so that you may learn wisdom and not transgress.

For they will be made holy who observe holy things in holiness,

and those who have been taught them will find a defence.

Therefore set your desire on my words;

long for them, and you will be instructed.

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,

and she is easily discerned by those who love her,

and is found by those who seek her.

She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,

for she will be found sitting at the gate.

To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,

and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,

because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,
and concern for instruction is love of her,
and love of her is the keeping of her laws,
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,
and immortality brings one near to God;
so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

Therefore if you delight in thrones and sceptres, O monarchs over the peoples,
honour wisdom, so that you may reign for ever.

or [Hosea 1](#)

Canticle

A Song of the Lamb, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 62 \(page 620\)](#) or [number 74 \(page 632\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All let us rejoice and exult
and give glory and homage to our God.

1 Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ☩
whose judgements are true and just.

2 Praise our God, all you his servants, ☩
all who fear him, both small and great.

3 The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns: ☩
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.

4 For the marriage of the Lamb has come ☩
and his bride has made herself ready.

5 Blessed are those who are invited ☩
to the wedding banquet of the Lamb.

Revelation 19.1b, 2a, 5b, 6b, 7, 9b

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 Let us rejoice and exult

and give glory and homage to our God.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Colossians 3.1-22

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart. Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything, not only while being watched and in order to please them, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord.

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

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

the Lord is the strength of my life.

AllThe Lord is my light and my salvation;

the Lord is the strength of my life.

The light shines in the darkness

and the darkness has not overcome it.

AllThe Lord is the strength of my life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

AllThe Lord is my light and my salvation;

the Lord is the strength of my life.

from Psalm 27 and John 1

Gospel Cantic

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,

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

Refrain:

AllYou have done great things, O God,

and holy is your name.

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:

AllYou have done great things, O God,
and holy is your name.

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 362-363](#)

¶ The universal Church

¶ Bishops, synods and all who lead the Church

¶ The leaders of the nations

¶ The natural world and the resources of the earth

¶ All who are in any kind of need

One of the forms of prayer found [on pages 362-371](#) 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,

you know us to be set

in the midst of so many and great dangers,

that by reason of the frailty of our nature

we cannot always stand upright:

grant to us such strength and protection

as may support us in all dangers

and carry us through all temptations;

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

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)

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

All The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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