

## ¶ Evening Prayer

### Lent

**Thursday, 13 March 2025**

### Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

All according to your judgement give us life.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts

to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God

in the face of Jesus Christ.

Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,

that freed from the misery of sin and shame

we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[A Song of Entreaty \(page 568\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Lord Jesus, think on me,

and purge away my sin;

from earthborn passions set me free,

and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me

with many a care opprest;

let me thy loving servant be,  
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,  
that, when the flood is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see,  
and share thy joy at last.

George the Sinner, tr: A W Chatfield  
(Tune: SM)

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 137**

Refrain: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

1 By the waters of Babylon we sat down and wept, □  
when we remembered Zion.

2 As for our lyres, we hung them up □  
on the willows that grow in that land.

3 For there our captors asked for a song,  
our tormentors called for mirth: □  
'Sing us one of the songs of Zion.' R

4 How shall we sing the Lord's song □  
in a strange land?

5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem, □  
let my right hand forget its skill.

6 Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth  
if I do not remember you, □  
if I set not Jerusalem above my highest joy. R

7 Remember, O Lord, against the people of Edom  
the day of Jerusalem, □  
how they said, 'Down with it, down with it,  
even to the ground.'

8 O daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction, □  
happy the one who repays you  
for all you have done to us;

9 Who takes your little ones, □  
and dashes them against the rock.

Refrain: O pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

God of our pilgrimage,  
you sent your Son to our strange land  
to bring us home to you;  
give us your songs to sing,  
that even in our exile  
we may be filled with the breath of the Spirit  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.

# Psalm 138

Refrain: Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; □  
before the gods will I sing praise to you.

2 I will bow down towards your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your love and faithfulness; □  
for you have glorified your name  
and your word above all things.

3 In the day that I called to you, you answered me; □  
you put new strength in my soul. R

4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, □  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.

5 They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, □  
that great is the glory of the Lord.

6 Though the Lord be high, he watches over the lowly; □  
as for the proud, he regards them from afar. R

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you will preserve me; □  
you will stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand will save me.

8 The Lord shall make good his purpose for me; □  
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever;  
forsake not the work of your hands.

Refrain: Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.

Lord our God, supreme over all things,  
look upon the humble and lowly  
and put new strength into our souls  
to complete your purpose for us  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Psalm 142

Refrain: Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.

1 I cry aloud to the Lord; □  
to the Lord I make my supplication.

2 I pour out my complaint before him □  
and tell him of my trouble.

3 When my spirit faints within me, you know my path; □  
in the way wherein I walk have they laid a snare for me.

4 I look to my right hand, and find no one who knows me; □  
I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for my soul. R

5 I cry out to you, O Lord, and say: □  
'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

6 'Listen to my cry, for I am brought very low; □  
save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

7 'Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name; □  
when you have dealt bountifully with me,  
then shall the righteous gather around me.'

Refrain: Bring my soul out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name.

God of compassion,  
you regard the forsaken  
and give hope to the crushed in spirit;  
hear those who cry to you in distress  
and bring your ransomed people to sing your glorious praise,  
now and for ever.

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.

## Genesis 42.18-28

On the third day Joseph said to them, 'Do this and you will live, for I fear God: if you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here where you are imprisoned. The rest of you shall go and carry grain for the famine of your households, and bring your youngest brother to me. Thus your words will be verified, and you shall not die.' And they agreed to do so. They said to one another, 'Alas, we are paying the penalty for what we did to our brother; we saw his anguish when he pleaded with us, but we would not listen. That is why this anguish has come upon us.' Then Reuben answered them, 'Did I not tell you not to wrong the boy? But you would not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood.' They did not know that Joseph understood them, since he spoke with them through an interpreter. He turned away from them and wept; then he returned and spoke to them. And he picked out Simeon and had him bound before their eyes. Joseph then gave orders to fill their bags with grain, to return every man's money to his sack, and to give them provisions for their journey. This was done for them.

They loaded their donkeys with their grain, and departed. When one of them opened his sack to give his donkey fodder at the lodging-place, he saw his money at the top of the sack. He said to his brothers, 'My money has been put back; here it is in my sack!' At this they lost heart and turned trembling to one another, saying, 'What is this that God has done to us?'

## Canticle

A Song of Christ the Servant, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 61 \(page 619\)](#) or [number 67 \(page 625\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

AllChrist committed no sin,  
no guile was found on his lips.

1Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, □  
that you should follow in his steps.

2He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips, □  
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.

3When he suffered, he did not threaten, □  
but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.

4Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, □  
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

5By his wounds, you have been healed,  
for you were straying like sheep, □  
but have now returned  
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2.21b-25

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.

AllChrist committed no sin,  
no guile was found on his lips.

## Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

## Galatians 5.2-15

Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love.

You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth? Such persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough. I am confident about you in the Lord that you will not think otherwise. But whoever it is that is confusing you will pay the penalty. But my friends, why am I still being persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offence of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would castrate themselves!

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

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

Forsake me not, O Lord;  
be not far from me, O my God.  
AllForsake me not, O Lord;  
be not far from me, O my God.  
Make haste to help me,  
O Lord of my salvation.  
AllBe not far from me, O my God.  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
AllForsake me not, O Lord;  
be not far from me, O my God.

from Psalm 38

## **Gospel Cantic**

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,  
or [A Song of Praise \(page 627\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllCome, let us return to the Lord,  
for our God will richly pardon.

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:

AllCome, let us return to the Lord,  
for our God will richly pardon.

## 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](#)

¶ Those preparing for baptism and confirmation

¶ Those serving through leadership

¶ Those looking for forgiveness

¶ Those misled by the false gods of this present age

¶ All who are hungry

A form of prayer found [on page 380](#) may be used.

The Litany [on pages 400-403](#) may be said instead of the Prayers.

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 Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,

and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:

give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;

and, as you know our weakness,

so may we know your power to save;

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

Trusting in the compassion 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)

Trusting in the compassion 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 God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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