

¶ Evening Prayer

Passiontide

Wednesday, 16 April 2025

Wednesday of Holy Week

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

AllO Lord, make haste to help us.

Let your ways be known upon earth

All your saving power among the nations.

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.

As we behold your Son, enthroned on the cross,

stir up in us the fire of your love,

that we may be cleansed from all our sins,

and walk with you in newness of life

singing the praise of him who died

for us and our salvation.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

[Saviour of the World \(page 644\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

The royal banners forward go,

the cross shines forth in mystic glow;

where he in flesh, our flesh who made,

our sentence bore, our ransom paid.

There whilst he hung, his sacred side
by soldier's spear was opened wide,
to cleanse us in the precious flood
of water mingled with his blood.

Fulfilled is now what David told
in true prophetic song of old,
how God the nations' King should be;
for God is reigning from the tree.

O tree of glory, tree most fair,
ordained those holy limbs to bear,
how bright in purple robe it stood,
the purple of a Saviour's blood!

Upon its arms, like balance true,
he weighed the price for sinners due,
the price which none but he could pay,
and spoiled the spoiler of his prey.

To thee, eternal Three in One,
let homage meet by all be done:
as by the cross thou dost restore,
so rule and guide us evermore.

Venantius Fortunatus, tr: J M Neale (alt.)

(Tune: LM)

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 88

Refrain: You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

1 O Lord, God of my salvation, ☩

I have cried day and night before you.

2 Let my prayer come into your presence; ☩

incline your ear to my cry.

3 For my soul is full of troubles; ☩

my life draws near to the land of death.

4 I am counted as one gone down to the Pit; ☩

I am like one that has no strength,

5 Lost among the dead, ☩

like the slain who lie in the grave,

6 Whom you remember no more, ☩

for they are cut off from your hand. R

7 You have laid me in the lowest pit, ☩

in a place of darkness in the abyss.

8 Your anger lies heavy upon me, ☩

and you have afflicted me with all your waves.

9 You have put my friends far from me ☩

and made me to be abhorred by them.

10 I am so fast in prison that I cannot get free; ☩

my eyes fail from all my trouble. R

11 Lord, I have called daily upon you; ☩

I have stretched out my hands to you.

12 Do you work wonders for the dead? □

Will the shades stand up and praise you?

13 Shall your loving-kindness be declared in the grave, □

your faithfulness in the land of destruction?

14 Shall your wonders be known in the dark □

or your righteous deeds in the land where all is forgotten? R

15 But as for me, O Lord, I will cry to you; □

early in the morning my prayer shall come before you.

16 Lord, why have you rejected my soul? □

Why have you hidden your face from me?

17 I have been wretched and at the point of death from my youth; □

I suffer your terrors and am no more seen.

18 Your wrath sweeps over me; □

your horrors are come to destroy me;

19 All day long they come about me like water; □

they close me in on every side.

20 Lover and friend have you put far from me □

and hid my companions out of my sight.

Refrain: You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

In the depths of our isolation

we cry to you, Lord God;

give light in our darkness

and bring us out of the prison of our despair

through 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.

Isaiah 63.1-9

'Who is this that comes from Edom,
from Bozrah in garments stained crimson?

Who is this so splendidly robed,
marching in his great might?'

'It is I, announcing vindication,
mighty to save.'

'Why are your robes red,
and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?'

'I have trodden the wine press alone,
and from the peoples no one was with me;

I trod them in my anger
and trampled them in my wrath;

their juice spattered on my garments,
and stained all my robes.

For the day of vengeance was in my heart,
and the year for my redeeming work had come.

I looked, but there was no helper;

I stared, but there was no one to sustain me;

so my own arm brought me victory,

and my wrath sustained me.

I trampled down peoples in my anger,

I crushed them in my wrath,

and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.'

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,

because of all that the Lord has done for us,

and the great favour to the house of Israel

that he has shown them according to his mercy,

according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

For he said, 'Surely they are my people,

children who will not deal falsely;

and he became their saviour

in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel

but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Canticle

The Song of Christ's Glory, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 66 \(page 624\)](#) or [number 87 \(page 644\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All At the name of Jesus

every knee shall bow.

1 Christ Jesus was in the form of God, □

but he did not cling to equality with God.

2 He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, □

and was born in our human likeness.

3 Being found in human form he humbled himself, □

and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

4 Therefore God has highly exalted him, □

and bestowed on him the name above every name,

5 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, □

in heaven and on earth and under the earth;

6 And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, □

to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.5-11

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.

All
At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Revelation 14.18 - 15.4

Then another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, 'Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.' So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and he threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the wine press, as high as a horse's bridle, for a distance of about two hundred miles.

Then I saw another portent in heaven, great and amazing: seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is ended.

And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

'Great and amazing are your deeds,

Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways,

King of the nations!

Lord, who will not fear

and glorify your name?

For you alone are holy.

All nations will come

and worship before you,

for your judgements have been revealed.'

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

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

All by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

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

All We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree

that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

All By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

By his wounds you have been healed.

All We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

cf 1 Peter 2

Gospel Canticle

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

or [A Song of Praise \(page 627\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All God's love for us is revealed

in that, while we were yet sinners,

Christ died for us.

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 God's love for us is revealed
in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.

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 persecuted Church
- ¶ The oppressed peoples of the world
- ¶ All who are lonely
- ¶ All who are near to death
- ¶ All who are facing loss

A form of prayer found [on page 381](#) 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 and everlasting God,

who in your tender love towards the human race

sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ

to take upon him our flesh

and to suffer death upon the cross:

grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,

and also be made partakers of his resurrection;

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

Standing at the foot of the cross,

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)

Standing at the foot of the cross,

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 bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.
AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord.

AllThanks be to God.

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