

The General Synod of the Church of England



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Worship

APRIL 2021

Friday 23 April 2021

Prayer During the Day

St George

Preparation

All O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

All If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

Psalm 139.7

Praise

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ;
today I am glorified with him.
Yesterday I was dead with Christ;
today I am sharing in his resurrection.
Yesterday I was buried with him;
today I am waking with him from the sleep of death.

Gregory of Nazianzus (389)

The Word of God

Psalmody

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦
and bless your name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you ♦
and praise your name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦
his greatness is beyond all searching out.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another ♦
and declare your mighty acts.
- 5 They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, ♦
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, ♦
and I will also tell of your greatness.

7 They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness ♦
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

8 The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦
long-suffering and of great goodness.

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.**

Short Reading

Job said, 'O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.'

Job 19.23–27a

Response

A time of silence.

All Blessed are the peacemakers
for they will be called children of God.

Matthew 5.9

Prayers

Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us make our prayer in the power of the Spirit,
looking to Jesus the pioneer of our faith.

That with the noble fellowship of the prophets
we may discern the signs of your kingdom in our midst,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

That with the glorious company of the apostles
we may proclaim your gospel throughout the world,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

That with the white-robed army of martyrs
we may be ready to suffer for the truth's sake,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

That with all who are anointed by your Spirit
we may bring good news to the poor
 and freedom to the oppressed,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

That with the saints in light
we may bind up the brokenhearted
 and comfort all who mourn,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

That within the whole company of Christ's pilgrim people
we may come to the inheritance of the saints in glory,
we pray to you, O Lord:

All **Lord hear us.**

In communion with all the saints,
let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God.

All **Amen.**

God of hosts,
who so kindled the flame of love
in the heart of your servant George
that he bore witness to the risen Lord
by his life and by his death:
give us the same faith and power of love
that we who rejoice in his triumphs
may come to share with him the fullness of the 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

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.**

The Conclusion

All

May the risen Christ give us his peace.
Alleluia Amen.

Saturday 24 April 2021

Morning Prayer

Mellitus, Bishop of London, first Bishop at St Paul's, 624

Mellitus was a Roman abbot and sent to England by the Pope, Gregory the Great, to undergird the work of Augustine, who consecrated him Bishop of the East Saxons with his see at London and his first church that of St Paul. After some local setbacks and having to reside in northern France, he and his fellow bishops were recalled to England, but Mellitus was unable to return to London. He was made archbishop in the year 619 and died on this day in the year 624. He was buried close to Augustine in the Church of Ss Peter & Paul in Canterbury.

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

In your resurrection, O Christ,
All let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, 'I am strong',
let the poor say, 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, 'I am strong',
let the poor say, 'I am rich',
because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks,
we give thanks (give thanks),
we give thanks.

God we thank you.
We thank you from the bottom of our hearts
for giving Jesus to us.
And we can say for the weak, 'I am strong'
because you promised
your strength will be perfect in our weakness.
And for every financial need we have,
we can sing 'I am rich'
because You promised to...

Words by Don Moen

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 111

- 1 Alleluia.
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, ♦
in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.
- 2 The works of the Lord are great, ♦
sought out by all who delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of majesty and honour ♦
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He appointed a memorial for his marvellous deeds; ♦
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He gave food to those who feared him; ♦
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

- 6 He showed his people the power of his works ♦
in giving them the heritage of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are truth and justice; ♦
all his commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever; ♦
they are done in truth and equity.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; ♦
holy and awesome is his name.
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
a good understanding have those who live by it; ♦
his praise endures for ever.

**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.**

Scripture Reading

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3.14–end

Responsory

Death is swallowed up in victory.
All Where, O death, is your sting?

Christ is risen from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
All Death is swallowed up in victory.

The trumpet will sound
and the dead shall be raised.
All Where, O death, is your sting?

We shall not all sleep,
but we shall be changed.
**All Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your sting?**

from 1 Corinthians 15

Gospel Cantic

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is sung.

1. Bless the Lord, the God of Israel,
who has come to set us free.
He has raised for us a Saviour
sprung from royal David's tree.
2. Through his prophets God had spoken
of the hope the Christ would bring;
of his faithfulness and mercy
let each generation sing.
3. Long ago God made a promise
he would set his people free,
that in all our life and worship
we might know true liberty,
4. To be holy, to be righteous
in his sight throughout our days;
now this child will be a herald
making ready all God's ways.

5. Let all people know salvation
through forgiveness of their sin,
as our God in his compassion
bids a shining dawn begin.
6. So may all who dwell in darkness
see the shadows disappear
while he guides our feet in pathways
where his peace is ever near.
7. To the Father be all glory
with the Spirit and the Son,
as it was, is now and shall be
while eternal ages run.

words by Anne Harrison

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy,
All **hear our prayer.**

The Collect of the day is said.

Almighty Father,
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples
with the sight of the risen Lord:
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,
that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;
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.

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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.**

The Conclusion

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

All Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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