

¶ Evening Prayer

Easter Season

Wednesday, 17 April 2024

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

AllO Lord, make haste to help us.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

Alllet heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord,

the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

to you be glory and praise for ever.

From the deep waters of death

you brought your people to new birth

by raising your Son to life in triumph.

Through him dark death has been destroyed

and radiant life is everywhere restored.

As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light

may our lives reflect his glory

and our lips repeat the endless song.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

AllBlessed be God for ever.

[A Song of David \(page 573\)](#), the following or another suitable hymn

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem,

your sweetest notes employ,

the Paschal victory to hymn

in strains of holy joy.

How Judah's lion burst his chains
and crushed the serpent's head;
and brought with him, from death's domains,
the long-imprisoned dead.

Triumphant in his glory now
his sceptre ruleth all,
earth, heaven, and hell before him bow,
and at his footstool fall.

While joyful thus his praise we sing,
his mercy we implore,
into his palace bright to bring
and keep us evermore.

All glory to the Father be,
all glory to the Son,
all glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
while endless ages run. Alleluia, Amen.

Fulbert of Chartres, tr: Robert Campbell
(Tune: CM)

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.
All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 67

1 God be gracious to us and bless us ☩
and make his face to shine upon us,

2 That your way may be known upon earth, ☩
your saving power among all nations.

3 *Let the peoples praise you, O God; ☩
let all the peoples praise you.*

4 O let the nations rejoice and be glad, ☩
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.

5 *Let the peoples praise you, O God; ☩
let all the peoples praise you.*

6 Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, ☩
and God, our own God, will bless us.

7 God will bless us, ☩
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

In the face of Jesus Christ
your light and glory have blazed forth,
O God of all the nations;
with all your people,
may we make known your grace
and walk in the ways of peace;
for your name's sake.

Psalm 72

Refrain: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

1 Give the king your judgements, O God, ☩
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

2 Then shall he judge your people righteously □
and your poor with justice.

3 May the mountains bring forth peace, □
and the little hills righteousness for the people.

4 May he defend the poor among the people, □
deliver the children of the needy and crush the oppressor. R

5 May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, □
from one generation to another.

6 May he come down like rain upon the mown grass, □
like the showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall righteousness flourish, □
and abundance of peace
till the moon shall be no more. R

8 May his dominion extend from sea to sea □
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

9 May his foes kneel before him □
and his enemies lick the dust.

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute; □
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

11 All kings shall fall down before him; □
all nations shall do him service. R

12 For he shall deliver the poor that cry out, □
the needy and those who have no helper.

13 He shall have pity on the weak and poor; □
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, □
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. R

15 Long may he live;
unto him may be given gold from Sheba; □
may prayer be made for him continually
and may they bless him all the day long.

16 May there be abundance of grain on the earth,
standing thick upon the hilltops; □
may its fruit flourish like Lebanon
and its grain grow like the grass of the field.

17 May his name remain for ever
and be established as long as the sun endures; □
may all nations be blest in him
and call him blessed. R

18 Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, □
who alone does wonderful things.

19 And blessed be his glorious name for ever. □
May all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Refrain: The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice.

May your kingdom come, O God,
with deliverance for the needy,
with peace for the righteous,
with overflowing blessing for all nations,
with glory, honour and praise
for Christ, the only Saviour.

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.

Deuteronomy 6

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the Lord your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children’s children may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with

you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

When the Lord your God has brought you into the land that he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—a land with fine, large cities that you did not build, houses filled with all sorts of goods that you did not fill, hewn cisterns that you did not hew, vineyards and olive groves that you did not plant—and when you have eaten your fill, take care that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. The Lord your God you shall fear; him you shall serve, and by his name alone you shall swear. Do not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who are all around you, because the Lord your God, who is present with you, is a jealous God. The anger of the Lord your God would be kindled against you and he would destroy you from the face of the earth.

Do not put the Lord your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. You must diligently keep the commandments of the Lord your God, and his decrees, and his statutes that he has commanded you. Do what is right and good in the sight of the Lord, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may go in and occupy the good land that the Lord swore to your ancestors to give you, thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the Lord has promised.

When your children ask you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the Lord our God has commanded you?' then you shall say to your children, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. The Lord displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. Then the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right.'

Canticle

A Song of Faith, or another suitable canticle, for example, [number 60 \(page 618\)](#) or [number 74 \(page 632\)](#), may be said

Refrain:

All God raised Christ from the dead,
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.

1 Blessed be the God and Father ☩
of our Lord Jesus Christ!

2 By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope ☩
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

3 Into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, ☩
kept in heaven for you,

4Who are being protected by the power of God through faith, □
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

5You were ransomed from the futile ways of your ancestors □
not with perishable things like silver or gold

6But with the precious blood of Christ □
like that of a lamb without spot or stain.

7Through him you have confidence in God,
who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, □
so that your faith and hope are set on God.

1 Peter 1.3-5, 18, 19, 21

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.

AllGod raised Christ from the dead,
the Lamb without spot or stain. Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

Ephesians 2.1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

The Lord is my strength and my song:

he has become my salvation.

AllThe Lord is my strength and my song:

he has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but live,

and declare the works of the Lord.

AllHe has become my salvation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

AllThe Lord is my strength and my song:

he has become my salvation.

from Psalm 118

Gospel Canticle

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

or [Great and Wonderful \(page 629\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

AllThe stone which the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.

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:

AllThe stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone. Alleluia.

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 people of God, that they may proclaim the risen Lord

¶ God's creation, that the peoples of the earth may meet their responsibility to care

¶ Those in despair and darkness, that they may find the hope and light of Christ

¶ Those in fear of death, that they may find faith through the resurrection

¶ Prisoners and captives

A form of prayer found [on page 382](#) 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 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.

(or)

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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 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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