

¶ Evening Prayer

Easter Season

Thursday, 25 April 2024

Mark the Evangelist

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

Allo Lord, make haste to help us.

In your resurrection, O Christ,

Allet 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.

All Blessed 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.
AllAmen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 45

Refrain: Behold our defender, O God,
and look upon the face of your anointed.

1 My heart is astir with gracious words; □
as I make my song for the king,
my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

2 You are the fairest of men; □
full of grace are your lips,
for God has blest you for ever.

3 Gird your sword upon your thigh, O mighty one; □
gird on your majesty and glory.

4 Ride on and prosper in the cause of truth □
and for the sake of humility and righteousness.

5 Your right hand will teach you terrible things; □
your arrows will be sharp in the heart of the king's enemies,
so that peoples fall beneath you. R

6 Your throne is God's throne, for ever; □
the sceptre of your kingdom is the sceptre of righteousness.

7 You love righteousness and hate iniquity; □
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

8 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes and cassia; □
from ivory palaces the music of strings makes you glad.

9 Kings' daughters are among your honourable women; □
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir. R

10 Hear, O daughter; consider and incline your ear; □
forget your own people and your father's house.

11 So shall the king have pleasure in your beauty; □

he is your lord, so do him honour.

12 The people of Tyre shall bring you gifts; □

the richest of the people shall seek your favour.

13 The king's daughter is all glorious within; □

her clothing is embroidered cloth of gold.

14 She shall be brought to the king in raiment of needlework; □

after her the virgins that are her companions.

15 With joy and gladness shall they be brought □

and enter into the palace of the king.

16 'Instead of your fathers you shall have sons, □

whom you shall make princes over all the land.

17 'I will make your name to be remembered through all generations; □

therefore shall the peoples praise you for ever and ever.'

Refrain: Behold our defender, O God,

and look upon the face of your anointed.

Lord our God,

bring your bride, your holy Church,

with joy to the marriage feast of heaven,

and unite us with your anointed Son,

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.

Ezekiel 1.4-14

As I looked, a stormy wind came out of the north: a great cloud with brightness around it and fire flashing forth continually, and in the middle of the fire, something like gleaming amber. In the middle of it was something like four living creatures. This was their appearance: they were of human form. Each had four faces, and each of them had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the sole of a calf’s foot; and they sparkled like burnished bronze. Under their wings on their four sides they had human hands. And the four had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; each of them moved straight ahead, without turning as they moved. As for the appearance of their faces: the four had the face of a human being, the face of a lion on the right side, the face of an ox on the left side, and the face of an eagle; such were their faces. Their wings were spread out above; each creature had two wings, each of which touched the wing of another, while two covered their bodies. Each moved straight ahead; wherever the spirit would go, they went, without turning as they went. In the middle of the living creatures there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches moving to and fro among the living creatures; the fire was bright, and lightning issued from the fire. The living creatures darted to and fro, like a flash of lightning.

Canticle

The following, or another suitable canticle, may be said or sung

Refrain:

All Christ was believed in throughout the world
and taken up in glory. Alleluia.

1 Christ Jesus was revealed in the flesh □
and vindicated in the spirit.

2 He was seen by angels □
and proclaimed among the nations.

3 Believed in throughout the world, □
he was taken up in glory.

4 This will be made manifest at the proper time □
by the blessed and only Sovereign,

5 Who alone has immortality, □
and dwells in unapproachable light.

1 Timothy 3.16; 6.15, 16

All To the King of kings and Lord of lords □
be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

All Christ was believed in throughout the world
and taken up in glory. Alleluia.

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

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

2 Timothy 4.1-11

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry.

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 Cantic

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,
or [Great and Wonderful \(page 629\)](#) may be said

Refrain:

All The one who saw what Jesus did has borne witness,
that you also may believe. Alleluia.

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 The one who saw what Jesus did has borne witness,
that you also may believe. 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 God,
who enlightened your holy Church
through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark:
grant that we, being firmly grounded
in the truth of the gospel,
may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed;
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

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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)

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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 the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

AllThanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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