

¶ Evening Prayer

Easter Season

Saturday, 27 April 2024

Christina Rossetti, Poet, 1894 [Commemoration]

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 84

Refrain: Blessed are they who dwell in your house.

1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! □
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: □
at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

3 Blessed are they who dwell in your house: □
they will always be praising you. R

4 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, □
in whose heart are the highways to Zion,

5 Who going through the barren valley find there a spring, □
and the early rains will clothe it with blessing.

6 They will go from strength to strength □
and appear before God in Zion. R

7 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; □
listen, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God, □
and look upon the face of your anointed.

9 For one day in your courts □
is better than a thousand. R

10 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God □
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.

11 For the Lord God is both sun and shield;
he will give grace and glory; □

no good thing shall the Lord withhold
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O Lord God of hosts, ☩
blessed are those who put their trust in you.

Refrain: Blessed are they who dwell in your house.

Lord God,
sustain us in this vale of tears
with the vision of your grace and glory,
that, strengthened by the bread of life,
we may come to your eternal dwelling place;
in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Psalm 86

Refrain: All nations you have made shall come and worship
you, O Lord.

1 Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, ☩
for I am poor and in misery.

2 Preserve my soul, for I am faithful; ☩
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.

3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God; ☩
I call upon you all the day long.

4 Gladden the soul of your servant, ☩
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. R

5 For you, Lord, are good and forgiving, ☩
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer ☩
and listen to the voice of my supplication.

7 In the day of my distress I will call upon you, ☩
for you will answer me. R

8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord, □
nor any works like yours.

9 All nations you have made shall come and worship you, O Lord, □
and shall glorify your name.

10 For you are great and do wonderful things; □
you alone are God. R

11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; □
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name.

12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, □
and glorify your name for evermore;

13 For great is your steadfast love towards me, □
for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave. R

14 O God, the proud rise up against me
and a ruthless horde seek after my life; □
they have not set you before their eyes.

15 But you, Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, □
slow to anger and full of kindness and truth.

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; □
give your strength to your servant
and save the child of your handmaid.

17 Show me a token of your favour,
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; □
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

Refrain: All nations you have made shall come and worship
you, O Lord.

God of mercy,
who in your great love
drew your Son from the depths of the Pit,
bring your people from death to life,
that we may rejoice in your compassion
and praise you now and for ever.

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 15.1-18

Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held against a neighbour, not exacting it from a neighbour who is a member of the community, because the Lord's remission has been proclaimed. From a foreigner you may exact it, but you must remit your claim on whatever any member of your community owes you. There will, however, be no one in need among you, because the Lord is sure to bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you as a possession to occupy, if only you will obey the Lord your God by diligently observing this entire commandment that I command you today. When the Lord your God has blessed you, as he promised you, you will lend to many nations, but you will not borrow; you will rule over many nations, but they will not rule over you.

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbour. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, 'The seventh year, the year of remission, is near', and therefore view your needy neighbour with hostility and give nothing; your neighbour might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land.'

If a member of your community, whether a Hebrew man or a Hebrew woman, is sold to you and works for you for six years, in the seventh year you shall set that person free. And when you send a male slave out from you a free person, you shall not send him out empty-handed. Provide liberally out of your flock, your threshing-floor, and your wine press, thus giving to him some of the bounty with which the Lord your God has blessed you. Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God redeemed you; for this reason I lay this command upon you today. But if he says to you, 'I will not go out from you', because he loves you and your household, since he is well off with you, then you shall take an awl and thrust it through his earlobe into the door, and he shall be your slave for ever.

You shall do the same with regard to your female slave.

Do not consider it a hardship when you send them out from you free persons, because for six years they have given you services worth the wages of hired labourers; and the Lord your God will bless you in all that you do.

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,

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

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

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

7 Through 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

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 God 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 6.10-end

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, Tychicus will tell you everything. He is a dear brother and a faithful minister in the Lord. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, to let you know how we are, and to encourage your hearts.

Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who have an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ.

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:

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 God,

who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ

have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:

grant that, as by your grace going before us

you put into our minds good desires,

so by your continual help

we may bring them to good effect;

through Jesus Christ our risen 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

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.

AllAmen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

AllThanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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