

Wednesday 27 May 2020: Evening Prayer

GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

PREPARATION

All say

Heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault;
by what we have done
and by what we have failed to do.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PENITENCE

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

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

Send your Holy Spirit upon us,
and clothe us with power from on high. Alleluia.

THE WORD OF GOD

A PSALM

Psalm 99

1 The Lord is king: let the | peoples | tremble; ♦
he is enthroned above the cherubim: | let the | earth | shake.
2. The Lord is | great in | Zion ♦
and | high a|bove all | peoples.
3 Let them praise your name, which is | great and | awesome; ♦
the | Lord our | God is | holy.
4 Mighty king, who loves justice, you have es|tablished | equity; ♦
you have executed | justice and | righteousness in | Jacob.
5† *Exalt the | Lord our | God; ♦*
bow down before his | footstool, for | he is | holy.
6 Moses and Aaron among his priests
and Samuel among those who | call upon his | name; ♦
they called upon the | Lord | and he | answered them.

7 He spoke to them out of the | pillar of | cloud; ♦
they kept his testimonies | and the | law •that he | gave them.

8 You answered them, O | Lord our | God; ♦
you were a God who forgave them
and | pardoned •them for | their of| fences.

9 Exalt the Lord our God
and worship him upon his | holy | hill, ♦
for the | Lord our | God is | holy.

Psalm-Prayer

Lord God, mighty king,
you love justice and establish equity;
may we love justice more than gain
and mercy more than power;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A CANTICLE

A SONG OF GOD'S CHILDREN Romans 8: 2, 14, 15b–19

Refrain: *The Spirit of the Father,*
who raised Christ Jesus from the dead,
gives life to the people of God. Alleluia.

1 The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus ♦
has set us free from the law of sin and death.
2 All who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God; ♦
for we have received the Spirit that enables us to cry,
'Abba, Father'.
3 The Spirit himself bears witness that we are children of God ♦
and if God's children, then heirs of God;
4 If heirs of God, then fellow-heirs with Christ; ♦
since we suffer with him now,
that we may be glorified with him.
5 These sufferings that we now endure ♦
are not worth comparing to the glory that shall be revealed.
6 For the creation waits with eager longing ♦
for the revealing of the children of God.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, ♦
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the be | ginning, is | now, ♦
and shall be for | ever. | A | men.

Refrain: *The Spirit of the Father,*
who raised Christ Jesus from the dead,
gives life to the people of God. Alleluia.

A READING

John 3: 31-36

The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all. He testifies to what he has seen and heard, yet no one accepts his testimony. Whoever has accepted his testimony has certified this, that God is true. He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. The Father loves the Son and has placed all things in his hands. Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever disobeys the Son will not see life, but must endure God's wrath.

ADDRESS

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

MAGNIFICAT *The Song of the Virgin Mary*

Luke 1: 46-55

*Refrain: How excellent is your name in all the world,
you have set your glory above the heavens. Alleluia.*

1 My soul proclaims the | greatness · of the | Lord, ♦
my spirit re joices · in | God my | Saviour,
2 who has looked with favour on his | lowly | servant; ♦
from this day all gene|rations · will | call me | blessèd;
3† the Almighty has done | great things | for me ♦
and | holy | is his | name.
4 God has mercy on | those who | fear him, ♦
from gene|ration · to | gene|ration.
5 The Lord has shown | strength · with his | arm ♦
and scattered the | proud in | their con|ceit,
6 casting down the mighty | from their | thrones ♦
and | lifting | up the | lowly.
7 God has filled the hungry with | good | things ♦
and sent the | rich a|way | empty.
8 He has come to the aid of his | servant | Israel ♦
to re|member · the | promise of | mercy,
9 The promise | made to · our | forebears, ♦
to Abraham | and his | children · for | ever.

Glory to the Father, and | to the | Son, ♦
and | to the | Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be|ginning, is | now, ♦
and shall be for | ever. | A|men.

*Refrain: How excellent is your name in all the world,
you have set your glory above the heavens. Alleluia.*

PRAYER

Kneel

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Let us celebrate in prayer the Ascension of our Lord
and prepare for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

INTERCESSIONS

Come, Holy Spirit, renew the whole creation.

Send the wind and flame of your transforming life
to lift up the church in this day.

Give us wisdom and faith, that we may know

the great hope to which we are called.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Giver of life, sustain your creation.
Confront us with our greedy consuming of your gifts.
Stand before us as we pillage and destroy.
Call us forth into new harmonies of care
for all who live and breathe and have their being.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Spirit of truth, set us free to emerge as the children of God.
Open our ears, that we may hear the weeping of the world.
Open our mouths, that we may be a voice for the voiceless.
Open our eyes, that we may see your vision of peace and justice.
Make us alive with the courage and faith of your prophetic truth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Spirit of unity, reconcile your people.
Give us the wisdom to hold to what we need to be your church.
Give us the grace to lay down those things that you can do without.
Give us a vision of your breadth and length and height
to challenge our smallness of heart and bring us humbly together.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit, transform us and sanctify us
as we take up this task in your name.
Give us the gifts we need to be your church in spirit and truth.

Come, Holy Spirit. Amen.

THANKSGIVINGS

Lord Jesus Christ
we thank you for the truth
that you came to save not just a few,
nor simply your own people,
but all the world.
You are the King of kings and Lord of lords,
your love reaching out to the ends of the earth,
your glory filling the universe!
Mighty Saviour,
in thanks we worship you.

We greet you now as the sovereign Lord -
the one who reigns in splendour,
enthroned at the right hand of the Father,
and the one who, in fulness of time,
will reconcile all things to yourself,
making peace through your blood
and establishing your eternal kingdom.
Mighty Saviour,
in thanks we worship you.

Lord Jesus Christ,
Saviour of all,
we look forward to that day when every knee shall bow to you,
and every tongue confess you as Lord and Saviour.
To you be praise and glory,

honour and thanksgiving,
now and always. **Amen.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Almighty God,
may we be filled by the coming on us of the Holy Spirit
and, when our earthly lives are over,
rise to meet the Lord in the skies
to be with him in his heavenly kingdom.
This we ask through Jesus Christ, our ascended Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT

Collect for "Thy Kingdom Come"

Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Being made one by the power of the Spirit,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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 ENDING

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

BLESSING