

## WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER. EVENING PRAYER

### GREETING

Welcome in the name of Christ. God's grace, mercy, and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

### PREPARATION

In a world where fear can hold us back, we face the future with confidence in God's presence.

**As God's people we have gathered. Let us worship together. Amen.**

### PENITENCE

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

*Silence is kept*

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us:

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done; and we have done those things that we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to humankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

**Come, let us worship.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting.

**The Lord's name is greatly to be praised.**

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.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

### A READING

#### *Revelation 13:11-18*

Then I saw another beast that rose out of the earth; it had two horns like a lamb and it spoke like a dragon. It exercises all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and it makes the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose mortal wound had been healed. It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven to earth in the sight of all; and by the signs that it is allowed to perform on behalf of the beast, it deceives the inhabitants of earth, telling them to make an image for the beast that had been wounded by the sword and yet lived; and it was allowed to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast could even speak and cause those who would not worship the image of the beast to be killed. Also it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell who does not have the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. This calls for wisdom: let anyone with understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a person. Its number is six hundred and sixty-six.

### ADDRESS

### CANTICLE

#### *In our darkness – Taizé*

In our darkness  
there is no darkness.  
With you, o Lord,  
the deepest night  
is clear as the day.

### PRAISE

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

**There is no end to God's greatness.**

One generation shall praise your works to another  
**and shall declare your power.**

All your works praise you, Lord,

**and your faithful servants bless you.**

They make known the glory of your kingdom  
**and speak of your power.**

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

**let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.**

### PRAYERS

We pray to the Lord: in faith we pray.  
**We pray to you our God.**

*Silence is kept*

That the rest of this day may be holy, peace full and full of your presence; in faith we pray.

**We pray to you our God.**

That we may hear and respond to your call to peace and justice; in faith we pray

**We pray to you our God.**

That you will sustain the faith and hope of those who are lonely, oppressed and anxious; in faith we pray

**We pray to you our God.**

That you will strengthen us in your service, and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom; in faith we pray

**We pray to you our God.**

**God of mercy, you know us and love us and hear our prayer: keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

#### **COLLECT**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scripture to be written for our learning: Help us to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

#### **SENDING OUT**

Heavenly Father, we share together the blessing of your presence.

**Give us in this life knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**