

WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER. EVENING PRAYER

THE WORD OF GOD

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PREPARATION

We come from scattered lives to meet with God. Let us recognise God's presence with us.

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.

A READING

St John 11:45-57

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what he had done. So the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the council, and said, 'What are we to do? This man is performing many signs. If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and destroy both our holy place and our nation.' But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, 'You know nothing at all! You do not understand that it is better for you to have one man die for the people than to have the whole nation destroyed.' He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was about to die for the nation, and not for the nation only, but to gather into one the dispersed children of God. So from that day on they planned to put him to death.

Jesus therefore no longer walked about openly among the Jews, but went from there to a town called Ephraim in the region near the wilderness; and he remained there with the disciples.

Now the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. They were looking for Jesus and were asking one another as they stood in the temple, 'What do you think? Surely he will not come to the festival, will he?' Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that anyone who knew where Jesus was should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

ADDRESS

CANTICLE

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy
salvation which thou hast prepared before the face of
all people; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be
the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy
Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

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

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our
hearts are restless till they find their rest in you: Teach us
to offer ourselves to your service, that here we may have
your peace, and in the world to come may see you face
to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**