

Wednesday 13 January 2021: Evening Prayer

GREETING

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

This is what we have heard from him, and the message we announce: God is light; there is no darkness in him at all.

1 John 1 : 5

PENITENCE

Silent prayer / reflection on the past day.

Let my prayer rise before you as incense,
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not be in want.

Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Teach me, Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

THE WORD OF GOD

A PSALM

Psalm 12

Refrain: You, O Lord, will watch over us.

1 Help me, Lord, for no one | godly is | left; ♦
the faithful have vanished from the | whole | human | race.
2. They all speak falsely | with their | neighbour; ♦
they flatter with their lips, but | speak •from a | double | heart.
3 O that the Lord would cut off all | flattering | lips ♦
and the | tongue that | speaks proud | boasts!
4 Those who say, 'With our tongue will | we pre | vail; ♦
our lips we will use; | who is | lord | over us?'
You, O Lord, will watch over us.

5. 'Because of the oppression of the needy,
and the | groaning •of the | poor, ♦
I will rise up now,' says the Lord,
'and set them in the | safety | that they | long for.'

6 The words of the | Lord are | pure words, ♦
like silver refined in the furnace
and purified | seven times | in the | fire.
7 You, O Lord, | will watch | over us ♦
and guard us from | this •gene|ration for | ever.
8 The wicked strut on | every | side, ♦
when what is vile is exalted by the | whole | human | race.
You, O Lord, will watch over us.

Psalm-Prayer

Lord, when faith is faint
and speech veils our intentions,
restore us by your word of power and purity,
both now and 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.

MAGNIFICAT *The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary Luke 1 : 46-55*

*Refrain: My soul rejoices in you, O God,
my soul proclaims your greatness.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
who has looked with favour on his lowly servant;
from this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.
God has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
The Lord has shown strength with his arm
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.
God has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the aid of his servant Israel.
to remember the promise of mercy,
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: My soul rejoices in you, O God,
my soul proclaims your greatness.*

A READING

John 1: 29-34

The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.

ADDRESS

INTERCESSIONS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Let us pray for Christ's continuing epiphany among all who long for his presence.

INTERCESSIONS

For your manifestation among all who long for truth and are educated and wise in this world, for those who conduct research and those who teach, for those who study the stars and those who give counsel to kings and rulers,
we seek your grace, O wisdom of God.

For your epiphany among all who are open to your presence in the water and the wine, and especially among those who have seen your star but have not yet heard your name,
we seek your grace, O Saviour of the nations.

For your epiphany among all who are suffering for the cause of righteousness, for all who are in prison, for those who are oppressed, and for those who are hungry, thirsty, and homeless,
we seek your grace, O Son of God.

For your manifestation of your glory in the course of our daily lives, in our homes, our schools, our workplaces, and our facilities for play and entertainment,
we seek your grace, O Lamb of God.

THANKSGIVINGS

Let us praise God for the manifestation of the Christ in his mission on earth. Let us praise God for the Magi from the east, who were sent to Bethlehem to teach us to honour him and to offer our gifts.
We praise you, O God.

Let us praise God for the multitudes around the world
who are today using the resources of their customs and cultures
in developing new forms of worshiping the Christ.
We praise you, O God.

Let us praise God for all those
who are presenting themselves to be baptized in the name of Christ
and for all the parents who are bringing their children to the water of Christ.
We praise you, O God.

Let us praise God for the manifestation of Christ in our own time
when the thirsty are given something to drink and the hungry are fed.
We praise you, O God.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

**May we continuously follow the light of Christ
so that we may see him in glory.
In his name we pray. Amen.**

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
Grant to us, who are born of water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

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

DISMISSAL

May Christ, who sends us to the nations,
give us the power of his Spirit. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.