

WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY. EVENING PRAYER.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PREPARATION

Through Christ let us offer our sacrifice of praise to God.

Let our lips proclaim his praise.

Let our prayers rise up before God like incense.

Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.

PENITENCE

The divisions brought about by human sin and pride are matters of great sorrow for us all. Therefore let us confess our sins, and ask for God's forgiveness and guidance

Silence is kept

God be merciful and bless us, and make his face to shine upon us.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on earth, your saving power to all nations.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

O Lord, open our lips

and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

THE WORD OF GOD

A READING

St. Luke 18:15-17

People were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them; and when the disciples saw it, they sternly ordered them not to do it. But Jesus called for them and said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.'

ADDRESS

ANTHEM

O nata lux

*O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum laudes precesque sumere.
Qui carne quondam contegi dignatus es pro perditis
Nos membra confer effici Tui beati corporis.*

O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, mercifully deign to accept the praises and prayers of your suppliants.

O you who once deigned to be hidden in flesh on behalf of the lost,
grant us to be made members of your blessed body.

PRAISE

God is light.

In God there is no darkness.

If we live in the light,

as God is in the light,

we have fellowship with one another

and the fellowship of Christ, who redeems us from sin.

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, in Christ you make all things new: Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.