

WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH. EVENING PRAYER.

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PREPARATION

Creator of the world, eternal God,

We have come from many places for a little while.

Redeemer of humanity, God-with-us,

We have come with all our differences, seeking common ground.

Spirit of unity, ever present God,

We have come on journeys of our own, to a place where journeys meet.

So here, let us take time together. For when paths cross and pilgrims gather, there is much to share and celebrate.

In your name, Holy Trinity, pattern of community. Amen.

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. John 8:12-20

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' Then the Pharisees said to him, 'You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.' Jesus answered, 'Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I judge not one. Yet even if I do judge, my judgement is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.' Then they said to him, 'Where is your Father?' Jesus answered, 'You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.' He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

ADDRESS

ANTHEM

Drop, drop, slow tears,
and bathe those beautiful feet,
which brought from heaven
the news and Prince of Peace.

Cease not, wet eyes,
his mercies to entreat;
to cry for vengeance
sin doth never cease.

In your deep flood

drown all my faults and fears;
not let his eye see sin,
but through my tears.

Orlando Gibbons

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

Merciful Lord, Grant your people grace to withstand the
temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil and
with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
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.**