

A LATE EVENING OFFICE – Wednesday 5th May 2021

Blessed be our God for all time, now and for evermore. Amen.

Glory to you, our God, glory be to you, Holy Spirit, Comforter, treasure of all goodness and giver of life, come and dwell in us, cleanse us from all sin, and in your love bring us to salvation.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Psalm 30 - A song. For the dedication of the temple. Of David.

¹ I will exalt you, LORD, for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.

² **LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.**

³ You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.

⁴ **Sing the praises of the LORD, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.**

⁵ For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning.

⁶ **When I felt secure, I said, "I will never be shaken."**

⁷ LORD, when you favoured me, you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face, I was dismayed.

⁸ **To you, LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy:**

⁹ "What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you? Will it proclaim your faithfulness?"

¹⁰ **Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me; LORD, be my help."**

¹¹ You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

¹² **that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.**
LORD my God, I will praise you forever.

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.

Reading – John 14 v 15 – 31 - The Promise of the Holy Spirit

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you.

¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and

those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, “Lord, how is it that you will reveal yourself to us, and not to the world?”²³ Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe. ³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me; ³¹ but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

Meditation.

HYMN – Holy Spirit, come, confirm us,

Holy Spirit, come, confirm us in the truth that Christ makes known;
We have faith and understanding through your helping gifts alone.

Holy Spirit, come, console us, come as advocate to plead;
Loving Spirit stand beside us, grant in Christ the help we need.

Holy Spirit, come, renew us, come yourself to make us live;
Make us holy through your presence, holy through the gifts you give.

Holy Spirit, come, fulfill us, you the love of Three in One;
Bring our lives to full completion through your work in us begun

PRAYERS - Let us pray,

Holy Spirit, we remember how you worked in the life of the early Church, prompting, guiding, cleansing, invigorating, opening doors to the Gospel and raising up followers ready to make it known through word and deed. Transform the Church,

Holy Spirit **Bring guidance and wisdom,**

Holy Spirit, you transformed the lives of the Apostles by your renewing power. You breathed into them new vision, new hope and new faith. Enrich our service,

Holy Spirit **Increase faith and vision,**

Holy Spirit, coming gentle as a dove, we pray for all who long for peace. We think of those in homes racked by tensions, families split by disputes, communities scarred by prejudices and intolerance and countries torn apart by violence and war.

Holy Spirit **Bring peace and love,**

Holy Spirit, we pray for all those who long for change - the poor, the homeless, the hungry, those who are sick, the downtrodden and the oppressed and those who yearn for a new beginning and a fresh start.

Holy Spirit **Bring healing and renewal,**

Holy Spirit, we thank you for your presence among us and your power to bring comfort in times of sorrow, courage in times of fear, peace in times of trouble and hope in times of despair.

Holy Spirit **Enlighten awareness of your presence,**

Holy Spirit, we welcome you afresh in our lives and ask you to open our minds to your guidance, open our hearts to your love and our lives to your purpose.

Holy Spirit **Pour out your power,**

Let us continue praying in silence (Silence is kept)

THE LORD'S PRAYER - Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

Sovereign God, send us out in the name of Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit. We have heard your word; now help us to make it known, we have rejoiced in your love; now help us to share it with others. Use us for your will and for your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with us and remain with us always. Amen.