

Wednesday 14 July 2021: Evening Prayer

GREETING

Let us worship God.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

In everything make your requests known to God in prayer and petition with thanksgiving.

Philippians 4: 6

ADORATION

Blessed are you, Lord God, our Father, for ever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power, the glory and the victory and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and the earth is yours. Yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

CONFESSION

Let us in silence examine ourselves before Almighty God.

After a period of silence the Minister says:

Let us humbly confess our sins.

Gracious God, our loving heavenly Father, we confess to you and in the sight of the whole company of heaven that we have deeply sinned by what we have thought and said and done. We know our transgression and our sin is ever before us. Hide your face from our sins, we pray and blot out our iniquities.

Lamb of God, that takes away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world.

Receive our prayer.

HYMN CH560: *"Alone with none but thee, my God" (adapted)*

Alone with none but thee, my God,

I journey on my way:

what need I fear when thou art near,

O King of night and day?

More safe am I within thy hand,

than if a host should round me stand.

The child of God can fear no ill,

his chosen, dread no foe;

'tis not from chance our comfort springs,

thou art our trust, O King of kings.

My destined time is fixed by thee,

and death doth know his hour;

did warriors strong around me throng,

they could not stay his power:

No walls of stone can man defend

when thou thy messenger dost send.

My life I yield to thy decree,
and bow to thy control
in peaceful calm, for from thine arm
no power can wrest my soul:
could earthly omens e'er appal
a man that heeds the heavenly call?

Attrib. Columba (c.520-597)

THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 142

I cry aloud to the Lord; ♦

to the Lord I make my supplication.

I pour out my complaint before him ♦

and tell him of my trouble.

When my spirit faints within me, you know my path; ♦

in the way wherein I walk have they laid a snare for me.

I look to my right hand, and find no one who knows me; ♦

I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for my soul.

I cry out to you, O Lord, and say: ♦

'You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

'Listen to my cry, for I am brought very low; ♦

save me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me.

'Bring my soul out of prison,

that I may give thanks to your name; ♦

when you have dealt bountifully with me,

then shall the righteous gather around me.'

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.**

Luke 7: 31-35

'To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? They are like children sitting in the market-place and calling to one another,

"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not weep."

For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, "He has a demon"; the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, "Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!" Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children.'

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let your gospel come to us not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit, and in great assurance; that with humble, teachable, and obedient hearts we may receive what you have revealed and do always that which you have commanded; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

ADDRESS

Silence for Meditation

PRAYERS

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, who is in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. **Amen.**

O Lord, show your mercy upon us;
and grant us your salvation.
O Lord, guide and defend our rulers;
and give them wisdom from above.
Endue your ministers with righteousness
and make your chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save your people
and bless your inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord,
**because there is none other that rules the world,
but only you, O God.**
O God, make clean our hearts within us;
and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
Pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANSIVING

Almighty and everlasting God: we give thanks unto you,
the Lord of heaven and earth and the Giver of all good things.
We bless you for the many gifts which you in your loving-kindness
bestow upon us day by day, for your watchful care over us, your children,
and your faithfulness that never wavers.
But most of all we thank you for the gift of your Son, your only beloved, our Saviour.
We praise you for his holy incarnation, his perfect life on earth among mankind,
his precious sufferings and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and his continuing intercession and rule at your right hand.
We thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit,
for his work of grace in your Church and in our hearts
and for the promise of everlasting life.

Fill us with love for you, who first loved us and enable us to offer ourselves,
all that we are and all that we have, in your service:
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Visit the company of your people with your grace, O God,
and fill us with the confidence that comes from your presence,
that in all things we may set the light of your compassion before people.
Grant that no one who is hungry may go without food at our hands,
none who is naked without clothing,
none who is thirsty without water,
none who is lonely without company,
none who is frightened without encouragement,
none who is bereaved without comfort,
none who is oppressed without justice,
none who walks in darkness apart from you without the kindly light of your gospel.
Let us never, O God, disgrace the name by which we are called. **Amen.**

Almighty God, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ went about doing good,
and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people:
Continue, we pray you, that his gracious work among us.
Cheer and heal the sick;
to doctors and nurses grant skill, sympathy and patience;
and send down your blessing on all who labour to prevent suffering
and to forward the purposes of love;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Our gracious Father, we praise and magnify your name
for all your saints and martyrs, who have confessed you in their lives
and remained faithful unto death.
Grant us also to follow them as they have followed Christ,
and finally with them to inherit the kingdom prepared for all those
who have remained steadfast in faith and obedient to your commands,
through the enabling power of Jesus Christ your Son,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all glory for ever. **Amen.**

SALUTATION

Will you go forth to serve the Lord?
By the grace of God we will.
The Lord be with you.
The Lord bless you.

BENEDICTION

May the God of peace,
who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ,
the great Shepherd of the sheep,
by the blood of the eternal covenant,
make us perfect in all goodness, so that we may do his will,
and may he make of us what he would have us be,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever!
Amen.