

WEDNESDAY 18 AUGUST 2021: A LATE EVENING OFFICE

PREPARATION

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,
cleans us from all sin,
and in your love bring us to salvation.

OPENING PRAYER

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

RESPONSORY

THE WORD OF GOD

PSALM

Psalm 36

- 1 Sin whispers to the wicked, in the depths of their heart; ♦
there is no fear of God before their eyes.
- 2 They flatter themselves in their own eyes ♦
that their abominable sin will not be found out.
- 3 The words of their mouth are unrighteous and full of deceit; ♦
they have ceased to act wisely and to do good.
- 4 They think out mischief upon their beds
and have set themselves in no good way; ♦
nor do they abhor that which is evil.
- 5 Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens ♦
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6 Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep; ♦
you, Lord, shall save both man and beast.
- 7 How precious is your loving mercy, O God! ♦
**All mortal flesh shall take refuge
under the shadow of your wings.**
- 8 They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house; ♦
they shall drink from the river of your delights.
- 9 For with you is the well of life ♦
and in your light shall we see light.
- 10 O continue your loving-kindness to those who know you ♦
and your righteousness to those who are true of heart.
- 11 Let not the foot of pride come against me, ♦
nor the hand of the ungodly thrust me away.
- 12 There are they fallen, all who work wickedness. ♦
They are cast down and shall not be able to stand.

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.**

A READING

Mark 8: 14-21

Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And he cautioned them, saying, 'Watch out—beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod.' They said to one another, 'It is because we have no bread.' And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, 'Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?' They said to him, 'Twelve.' 'And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you collect?' And they said to him, 'Seven.' Then he said to them, 'Do you not yet understand?'

MEDITATION

A period of meditation on the reading follows.

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE

NUNC DIMITTIS *The Song of Simeon Luke 2: 29-32*

**1 Now, Lord, you let your servant | go in | peace: ■
your | word has | been ful|filled.**

**2 My own eyes have | seen the · sal|vation ■
which you have prepared in the | sight of | every | people.**

**3 A light to re|veal you · to the | nations ■
and the | glory · of your | people | Israel.**

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.

PRAYER

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Lord with all our heart and with all our soul.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all Christian people, that they may live in love and truth.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all ministers of the Church, and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for peace throughout the world, and for all governments.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for our neighbours and for all our friends.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for those who hate us as we pray for those who love us.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for refugees and prisoners, and for all who are exposed to the dangers of travel.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for all sick people, for the sorrowful and the dying.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray for the abundance of the fruits of the earth, and that the poor and hungry may receive a just share.
Lord, have mercy.

Let us remember our brothers and sisters who have entered into eternal rest.
Pause to name those on our minds and hearts
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

OPEN PRAYER

Let us continue praying in a time of open prayer.
A period of open prayer follows.

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

COLLECTS

Look down, O Lord,
from your heavenly throne,
illuminate the darkness of this night with your celestial brightness,
and from the children of light
banish the deeds of darkness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O God our Creator,
by whose mercy and might
the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light:
We give into your hands our unfinished tasks,
our unsolved problems, and our unfulfilled hopes,
knowing that only those things which you bless will prosper.
To your great love and protection
we commit each other and all for whom we have prayed,
knowing that you alone are our sure defender,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

COMMON COLLECT

Lord Almighty,
come and scatter the darkness of our hearts
by the light of your presence;
that we may know you the Light of the world
and the one true God,
blessed this night and for evermore. Amen.

THE ENDING

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

DISMISSAL

May the Almighty and merciful God,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless us and keep us. Amen.

BLESSING