

## A LATE EVENING OFFICE – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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 103

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

<sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—**

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

<sup>4</sup> **who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,**

<sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.**

<sup>9</sup> He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger forever;

<sup>10</sup> **he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;

<sup>12</sup> **as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**

<sup>13</sup> As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

<sup>14</sup> **for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.**

<sup>15</sup> The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;

<sup>16</sup> **the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.**

<sup>17</sup> But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children—

<sup>18</sup> **with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.**

<sup>19</sup> The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

<sup>20</sup> **Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.**

<sup>21</sup> Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

<sup>22</sup> **Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.**

**Praise the LORD, my soul.**

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 – Luke 11: 37 – 52 – Woes on the Pharisees and the Experts in the Law**

<sup>37</sup> When Jesus had finished speaking, a Pharisee invited him to eat with him; so he went in and reclined at the table. <sup>38</sup> But the Pharisee was surprised when he noticed that Jesus did not first wash before the meal.

<sup>39</sup> Then the Lord said to him, “Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. <sup>40</sup> You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? <sup>41</sup> But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.

<sup>42</sup> “Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone.

<sup>43</sup> “Woe to you Pharisees, because you love the most important seats in the synagogues and respectful greetings in the marketplaces.

<sup>44</sup> “Woe to you, because you are like unmarked graves, which people walk over without knowing it.”

<sup>45</sup> One of the experts in the law answered him, “Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us also.”

<sup>46</sup> Jesus replied, “And you experts in the law, woe to you, because you load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, and you yourselves will not lift one finger to help them.

<sup>47</sup> “Woe to you, because you build tombs for the prophets, and it was your ancestors who killed them. <sup>48</sup> So you testify that you approve of what your ancestors did; they killed the prophets, and you build their tombs. <sup>49</sup> Because of this, God in his wisdom said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and others they will persecute.’ <sup>50</sup> Therefore this generation will be held responsible for the blood of all the prophets that has been shed since the beginning of the world, <sup>51</sup> from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who was killed between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, this generation will be held responsible for it all.

<sup>52</sup> “Woe to you experts in the law, because you have taken away the key to knowledge. You yourselves have not entered, and you have hindered those who were entering.”

### **Few thoughts**

### **Meditation on the Reading**

**Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word.**

**For mine eyes have seen thy salvation;**

**Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end. Amen.**

**PRAYERS**

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 and particularly the people in our parishes, **Lord have mercy**

Let us pray for all ministers of the Church and for our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world thinking especially of those who are worshipping in fear, **Lord have mercy**

Let us pray for peace throughout the world and for all governments that they will rule with justice and compassion, **Lord have mercy**

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

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

Let us remember our brothers and sisters who have entered into eternal rest

**Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord**

Let us continue to pray in few moments of quietness,

Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and 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 for ever. Amen.**

**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 true God, blessed this night and for evermore. Amen**

Let us bless the Lord **Thanks be to God**

**May the Almighty and Merciful God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us this night and for ever. Amen**