

**WEDNESDAY 9 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. Luke 11:29-32

When the crowds were increasing, he began to say, 'This generation is an evil generation; it asks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. For just as Jonah became a sign to the people of Nineveh, so the Son of Man will be to this generation. The queen of the South will rise at the judgement with the people of this generation and condemn them,

because she came from the ends of the earth to listen to the wisdom of Solomon, and see, something greater than Solomon is here! The people of Nineveh will rise up at the judgement with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the proclamation of Jonah, and see, something greater than Jonah is here!

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.