

## A LATE EVENING OFFICE – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 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 71

<sup>1</sup> In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

<sup>2</sup> **In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me; turn your ear to me and save me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

<sup>4</sup> **Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.**

<sup>5</sup> For you have been my hope, Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth.

<sup>6</sup> **From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb. I will ever praise you.**

<sup>7</sup> I have become a sign to many; you are my strong refuge.

<sup>8</sup> **My mouth is filled with your praise, declaring your splendour all day long.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone.

<sup>10</sup> **For my enemies speak against me; those who wait to kill me conspire together.**

<sup>11</sup> They say, "God has forsaken him; pursue him and seize him, for no one will rescue him."

<sup>12</sup> **Do not be far from me, my God; come quickly, God, to help me.**

<sup>13</sup> May my accusers perish in shame; may those who want to harm me be covered with scorn and disgrace.

<sup>14</sup> **As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more.**

<sup>15</sup> My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day long—though I know not how to relate them all.

<sup>16</sup> **I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign LORD; I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone.**

<sup>17</sup> Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your

marvellous deeds.

**<sup>18</sup> Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.**

<sup>19</sup> Your righteousness, God, reaches to the heavens, you who have done great things. Who is like you, God?

**<sup>20</sup> Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again, from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up.**

<sup>21</sup> You will increase my honour and comfort me once more.

**<sup>22</sup> I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, Holy One of Israel.**

<sup>23</sup> My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you— I whom you have delivered.

**<sup>24</sup> My tongue will tell of your righteous acts all day long, for those who wanted to harm me have been put to shame and confusion.**

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 14 verses 15 – 24 - The Parable of the Great Banquet**

<sup>15</sup> When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, “Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied: “A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. <sup>17</sup> At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’

<sup>18</sup> “But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, ‘I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.’

<sup>19</sup> “Another said, ‘I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I’m on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.’

<sup>20</sup> “Still another said, ‘I just got married, so I can’t come.’

<sup>21</sup> “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

<sup>22</sup> “‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’

<sup>23</sup> “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. <sup>24</sup> I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.’”

## **Few thoughts**

### **Ecce Nunc - Psalm 134**

**Come bless the Lord, all you the servants of the Lord,  
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.  
Lift up your hands towards the holy place and bless the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion, the Lord who made heaven and  
earth.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

**Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

We pray to the Lord

That the rest of this day may be holy, peaceful and full of your presence:  
Lord of Peace, **Hear our prayer**

That we may hear and respond to your call and that you will strengthen us in  
your service and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom:  
Lord of service, **Hear our prayer**

That you will sustain our faith, help us to listen to your voice, read your word and reach out to you in prayer:

Lord of our lives, **Hear our prayer**

That you will continue to draw closer to those experiencing a difficult time, giving hope to the ill, the lonely, the oppressed and the anxious:

Lord of healing, **Hear our prayer**

Open prayers for those people, thoughts and concerns on our hearts and in our minds at the moment

**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.**

May the grace of God redeem us, the power of God renew us, the example of Christ inspire us and the love of Christ shine from us. **Amen.**