

EVENING PRAYER – Wednesday 7th September 2022

The Gathering of God's People

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all
and also with you.

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word, to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
and to pray for the needs of the world, that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Penitence

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**O God, our loving Father in heaven, we confess that we have sinned against you;
we have broken your commandments; we have often been selfish,
and we have not loved you as we should.
For these, and all our sins, forgive us, we pray: through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**All – May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sentences

O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouth will 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.

Psalm 89 verses 1- 18 - A *maskil* of Ethan the Ezrahite.

¹ I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known
through all generations.

² **I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven
itself.**

³ You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant,

⁴ **'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'**"

⁵ The heavens praise your wonders, LORD, your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

⁶ **For who in the skies above can compare with the LORD?**

Who is like the LORD among the heavenly beings?

⁷ In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared;
he is more awesome than all who surround him.

⁸ **Who is like you, LORD God Almighty? You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you.**

⁹ You rule over the surging sea; when its waves mount up, you still them.

¹⁰ **You crushed Rahab like one of the slain; with your strong arm you scattered your enemies.**

¹¹ The heavens are yours, and yours also the earth; you founded the world and all that is in it.

¹² **You created the north and the south; Tabor and Hermon sing for joy at your name.**

¹³ Your arm is endowed with power; your hand is strong, your right hand exalted.

¹⁴ **Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
love and faithfulness go before you.**

¹⁵ Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD.

¹⁶ **They rejoice in your name all day long; they celebrate your righteousness.**

¹⁷ For you are their glory and strength, and by your favour you exalt our horn.

¹⁸ **Indeed, our shield belongs to the LORD, our king to the Holy One of 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.

Reading – Luke 18 verses 18 – 30 - The Rich and the Kingdom of God

¹⁸ A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honour your father and mother.’”

²¹ “All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

²² When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³ When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. ²⁴ Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

²⁸ Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

²⁹ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰ will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

Few thoughts

The Response to God's Word

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, who made the world?

I believe and trust in him

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ, who redeemed mankind?

I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God?

I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. we believe and trust in One God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

The Prayers of the People.

Heavenly Father, we pray to you,

Response - Receive our 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. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

An Evening Collect

Lighten our darkness, O Lord, we pray and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Blessing

Wherever you go, God will be with you to hold, to heal, to guide and to bless,
Go then in peace assured of his love and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

