

6 May: An Evening Service of the Word

We say together the words printed in bold.

Preparation

Greeting

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

Opening Prayer

Faithful one, whose word is life:
come with saving power
to free our praise,
inspire our prayer
and shape our lives
for the kingdom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Word

Psalm

Psalm 8
O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.
³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?
⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings^[b]
and crowned him with glory and honour.
⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
⁹ O Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Reading(s)

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Response to God's Word

Sermon

Come see His hands and His feet,
The scars that speak of sacrifice;
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered.

Confession and Forgiveness

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel
The darkness of our hearts.
In His light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins

Silence may be kept

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us.

**Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The minister declares God's forgiveness.

Praise

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe.
To you be glory and praise for ever.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.
To you be glory and praise for ever.
When the time had fully come
you sent the Sun of Righteousness.
In him the fullness of your glory dwells.
To you be glory and praise for ever.

Prayers

Prayers of Thanks and Intercession

We pray to the Lord:
in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That the rest of this day may be holy,
peaceful and full of your presence;
in faith we pray.

We pray to you our God.

That the work we have done and the people we have met today
may bring us closer to you;
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.**

The Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
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.

Conclusion

Final Prayer

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending Out

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:
and the day is almost over.
The darkness is not dark to you:
the night is as bright as the day.
Let your light scatter the darkness:
and fill your church with your glory. Amen.