

## Order for Morning Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer – Advent Sunday

*Matins Responsory (Palestrina). Sung by Choir of Queens College, Cambridge*

Dearly beloved *brethren*, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

### **Confession**

Almighty and most merciful Father, We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done, And there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. **Amen.**

### **Absolution**

May the Father of all mercies  
Cleanse us from our sins  
And restore us in His image  
To the praise and glory of His name  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord  
**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.**

### **Responses**

Minister     O Lord, open thou our lips.  
Answer     **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

Minister     O God, make speed to save us.  
Answer     **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

Minister      Praise ye the Lord.  
Answer      **The Lord's Name be praised.**

***Venite, Exultemus Domino (Psalm 95)***

O come, let us sing unto the Lord :  
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :  
and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God :  
and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth :  
and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it :  
and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down :  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God :  
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

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.**

***First reading (Old Testament)***

**Isaiah 64, 1 – 9**

“Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you!

<sup>2</sup> As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil,  
come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you!

<sup>3</sup> For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you.

<sup>4</sup> Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

<sup>5</sup> You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways.  
But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved?

<sup>6</sup> All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;  
we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

<sup>7</sup> No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us and have given us over to our sins.

<sup>8</sup> Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of  
your hand.

<sup>9</sup> Do not be angry beyond measure, LORD; do not remember our sins for ever.  
Oh, look upon us we pray, for we are all your people.”

***Psalm of the day (Psalm 80, 1 – 6, 17 – 19)***

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock;  
You who dwell between the cherubim, shine forth!

<sup>2</sup> Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
Stir up Your strength, and come and save us!

<sup>3</sup> Restore us, O God; cause Your face to shine,  
And we shall be saved!

<sup>4</sup> O LORD God of hosts, how long will You be angry  
Against the prayer of Your people?

<sup>5</sup> You have fed them with the bread of tears,  
And given them tears to drink in great measure.

<sup>6</sup> You have made us a strife to our neighbours,  
And our enemies laugh among themselves.

<sup>17</sup> Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand,  
Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself.

<sup>18</sup> Then we will not turn back from You;  
Revive us, and we will call upon Your name.

<sup>19</sup> Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; cause Your face to shine,  
And we shall be saved!

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.**

## **Second reading (NT)**

**1 Corinthians 1, 3 - 9**

My brothers and sisters,

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my<sup>[b]</sup> God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— <sup>6</sup> just as the testimony of<sup>[c]</sup> Christ has been strengthened among you— <sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>8</sup> He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>9</sup> God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Jubilate Deo - Psalm 100**

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands : serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God : it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise : be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting : and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

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.**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholick Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. **Amen.**

Minister The Lord be with you.

Answer **And with thy spirit.**

Minister Let us pray. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Answer **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Minister Lord, have mercy upon us.

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

### ***Responses***

Minister. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Answer. And grant us thy salvation.

Minister. O Lord, save the Queen.

Answer. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Minister. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Answer. And make thy chosen people joyful.

Minister. O Lord, save thy people.

Answer. And bless thine inheritance.

Minister. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Answer. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Minister. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

### ***First collect for the day***

Lord of all power and might,  
the author and giver of all good things:  
graft in our hearts the love of your name,  
increase in us true religion,  
nourish us with all goodness,  
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### ***The Second Collect, for Peace***

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### ***The Third Collect, for Grace***

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

### ***Reflection***

*(5 minutes)*

### ***Other intercessions***

### ***The Blessing***

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
The Father the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
Be among us and remain with us always,  
Amen.

### ***O come, O come Emmanuel. Sung by Enya.***

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! O Israel, to you shall come Emmanuel

Veni, veni Emmanuel! Captivum solve Israel!  
Qui gemit in exilio, Privatus Dei Filio,  
*Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel nascetur pro te, Israel.*