

¶ *Evening Prayer Sunday, 25 February 2024* *The Second Sunday of Lent*

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

All according to your judgement give us life.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

Hymn

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalm 135

All: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

- 1 Praise the name of the Lord; ♦
give praise, you servants of the Lord,
- 2 You that stand in the house of the Lord, ♦
in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; ♦
make music to his name, for it is lovely.
- 4 For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself ♦
and Israel for his own possession.
- 5 For I know that the Lord is great ♦
and that our Lord is above all gods.
- 6 The Lord does whatever he pleases in heaven and on earth, ♦
in the seas and in all the deeps.
- 7 He brings up the clouds from the ends of the earth; ♦
he makes lightning with the rain and brings the winds out of his treasuries.
- 8 He smote the firstborn of Egypt, ♦
the firstborn of man and beast.

9 He sent signs and wonders into your midst, O Egypt, ♦
upon Pharaoh and all his servants.

10 He smote many nations ♦
and slew mighty kings:

11 Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, the king of Bashan, ♦
and all the kingdoms of Canaan.

12 He gave their land as a heritage, ♦
a heritage for Israel his people.

13 Your name, O Lord, endures for ever ♦
and shall be remembered through all generations.

14 For the Lord will vindicate his people ♦
and have compassion on his servants. *R*

15 The idols of the nations are but silver and gold, ♦
the work of human hands.

16 They have mouths, but cannot speak; ♦
eyes have they, but cannot see;

17 They have ears, but cannot hear; ♦
neither is there any breath in their mouths.

18 Those who make them shall become like them, ♦
and so will all who put their trust in them. *R*

19 Bless the Lord, O house of Israel; ♦
O house of Aaron, bless the Lord.

20 Bless the Lord, O house of Levi; ♦
you who fear the Lord, bless the Lord.

21 Blessed be the Lord from Zion, ♦
who dwells in Jerusalem.

***All* 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.**

***All*: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.**

Canticle* *A Song of Christ the Servant

***All* Christ committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips.**

1 Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, ♦
that you should follow in his steps.

2 He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips, ♦
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.

3 When he suffered, he did not threaten, ♦
but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.

4 Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, ♦
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

5 By his wounds, you have been healed, for you were straying like sheep, ♦
but have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

**All 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.**

All Christ committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips.

Scripture Reading Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, ‘as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.’

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Gospel Canticle The Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

All Come, let us return to the Lord, for our God will richly pardon.

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.

4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.

All 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.

All Come, let us return to the Lord, for our God will richly pardon.

Prayers

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of your truth,
that they may return to the way of righteousness:
grant to all those who are admitted
into the fellowship of Christ's religion,
that they may reject those things
that are contrary to their profession,
and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All 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.

The Conclusion

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.