

Evening Prayer, Advent Sunday, 3 December 2023

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Reveal among us the light of your presence
that we may behold your power and glory.

HYMN

This opening prayer may be said

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.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

*Psalm 25**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust; ♦
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.

2 Let none who look to you be put to shame, ♦
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated.

3 Make me to know your ways, O Lord, ♦
and teach me your paths.

4 Lead me in your truth and teach me, ♦
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long.

5 Remember, Lord, your compassion and love, ♦
for they are from everlasting.

6 Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions, ♦
but think on me in your goodness, O Lord,
according to your steadfast love.

7 Gracious and upright is the Lord; ♦
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.

8 He will guide the humble in doing right ♦
and teach his way to the lowly.

9 All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth ♦
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

10 For your name's sake, O Lord, ♦
be merciful to my sin, for it is great.

11 Who are those who fear the Lord? ♦
Them will he teach in the way that they should choose.

12 Their soul shall dwell at ease ♦
and their offspring shall inherit the land.

13 The hidden purpose of the Lord is for those who fear him ♦
and he will show them his covenant.

14 My eyes are ever looking to the Lord, ♦
for he shall pluck my feet out of the net.

15 Turn to me and be gracious to me, ♦
for I am alone and brought very low.

16 The sorrows of my heart have increased; ♦
O bring me out of my distress.

17 Look upon my adversity and misery ♦
and forgive me all my sin.

18 Look upon my enemies, for they are many ♦
and they bear a violent hatred against me.

19 O keep my soul and deliver me; ♦
let me not be put to shame, for I have put my trust in you.

20 Let integrity and uprightness preserve me, ♦
for my hope has been in you.

21 Deliver Israel, O God, ♦
out of all his troubles.

**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.**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

Canticle

A Song of the Spirit

Surely I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord,
'and bringing my reward with me, ♦
to give to everyone according to their deeds.

2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, ♦
the beginning and the end.'

3 Blessed are those who do God's commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life, ♦
and may enter into the city through the gates.

4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, ♦
with this testimony for all the churches.

5 'I am the root and the offspring of David, ♦
I am the bright morning star.'

6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride; ♦
'Come!' let each hearer reply.

7 Come forward, you who are thirsty, ♦
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.

Revelation 22.12-14, 16, 17

**To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb ♦
be blessing and honour and glory and might,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Surely I am coming soon.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Scripture Reading

Matthew 21.1-13

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,
'Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, 'It is written,

"My house shall be called a house of prayer";
but you are making it a den of robbers.'

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat

**Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,
the one whom we await with longing hearts.**

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.

**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.**

**Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come,
the one whom we await with longing hearts.**

Prayers

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him 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 is said

Awaiting his coming in glory,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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 the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.