

Evening Prayer, Sunday 14 September 2025

Holy Cross Day

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Let your ways be known upon earth

your saving power among the nations.

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.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 110

The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

- 1 The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right hand, ♦
until I make your enemies your footstool.'
- 2 May the Lord stretch forth the sceptre of your power; ♦
rule from Zion in the midst of your enemies.
- 3 'Noble are you on this day of your birth; ♦
on the holy mountain, from the womb of the dawn
the dew of your new birth is upon you.'
- 4 The Lord has sworn and will not retract: ♦
'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'
- 5 The king at your right hand, O Lord, ♦
shall smite down kings in the day of his wrath.
- 6 In all his majesty, he shall judge among the nations,
smiting heads over all the wide earth.
- 7 He shall drink from the brook beside the way; ♦
therefore shall he lift high his head.

**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.**

The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

Psalm 150

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

1 Alleluia.

O praise God in his holiness; ♦
praise him in the firmament of his power.

2 Praise him for his mighty acts; ♦
praise him according to his excellent greatness.

3 Praise him with the blast of the trumpet; ♦
praise him upon the harp and lyre.

4 Praise him with timbrel and dances; ♦
praise him upon the strings and pipe.

5 Praise him with ringing cymbals; ♦
praise him upon the clashing cymbals.

6 Let everything that has breath ♦
praise the Lord.
Alleluia.

**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.**

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Canticle

**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.

1 Peter 2.21b-25

**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.**

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

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 63.1-16

'Who is this that comes from Edom, from Bozrah in garments stained crimson? Who is this so splendidly robed, marching in his great might?'

'It is I, announcing vindication, mighty to save.'

'Why are your robes red, and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?'

'I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples no one was with me; I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath; their juice spattered on my garments, and stained all my robes. For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year for my redeeming work had come. I looked, but there was no helper; I stared, but there was no one to sustain me; so my own arm brought me victory, and my wrath sustained me. I trampled down peoples in my anger, I crushed them in my wrath, and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.'

I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

But they rebelled and grieved his holy spirit; therefore he became their enemy; he himself fought against them. Then they remembered the days of old, of Moses his servant. Where is the one who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is the one who put within them his holy spirit, who caused his glorious arm to march at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. Like cattle that go down into the valley, the spirit of the LORD gave them rest. Thus you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name. Look down from heaven and see, from your holy and glorious habitation. Where are your zeal and your might? The yearning of your heart and your compassion? They are withheld from me. For you are our father, though Abraham does not know us and Israel does not acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our father; our Redeemer from of old is your name.

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat

**If you would come after me, you must deny yourself,
and take up your cross and follow me.**

- 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.

Luke 1.46-55

**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.**

**If you would come after me, you must deny yourself,
and take up your cross and follow me.**

Prayers

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God,
who in the passion of your blessed Son
made an instrument of painful death
to be for us the means of life and peace:
grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ
that we may gladly suffer for his sake;
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

Standing at the foot of the cross,
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 Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.