

Evening Prayer on Sunday, 28 September 2025
The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

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 134

ALL Bless the Lord, O my soul.

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, ♦
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary ♦
and bless the Lord.
- 3 The Lord who made heaven and earth ♦
give you blessing out of Zion.

**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 Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Psalm 135.1-14 [15-end]

ALL Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

- 1 Alleluia.
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 treasures.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
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.**
ALL Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

Canticle

ALL Let us rejoice and exult and give glory and homage to our God.

- 1 Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ♦
whose judgements are true and just.
- 2 Praise our God, all you his servants, ♦
all who fear him, both small and great.
- 3 The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns: ♦
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.
- 4 For the marriage of the Lamb has come ♦
and his bride has made herself ready.
- 5 Blessed are those who are invited ♦
to the wedding banquet of the Lamb.

**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.**

Let us rejoice and exult and give glory and homage to our God.

Scripture Reading from the prophecy of Nehemiah, Chapter 2

In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was served to him, I carried the wine and gave it to the king. Now, I had never been sad in his presence before. So the king said to me, 'Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This can only be sadness of the heart.' Then I was very much afraid. I said to the king, 'May the king live for ever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my ancestors' graves, lies waste, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?' Then the king said to me, 'What do you request?' So I prayed to the God of heaven. Then I said to the king, 'If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favour with you, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my ancestors' graves, so that I may rebuild it.' The king said to me (the queen also was sitting beside him), 'How long will you be gone, and when will you return?' So it pleased the king to send me, and I set him a date. Then I said to the king, 'If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may grant me passage until I arrive in Judah; and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, directing him to give me timber to make beams for the gates of the temple fortress, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy.' And the king granted me what I asked, for the gracious hand of my God was upon me. Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent officers of the army and cavalry with me. When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

So I came to Jerusalem and was there for three days. Then I got up during the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. The only animal I took was the animal I rode. I went out by night by the Valley Gate past the Dragon's Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool; but there was no place for the animal I was riding to continue. So I went up by way of the valley by night and inspected the wall. Then I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing; I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest that were to do the work.

Then I said to them, 'You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burnt. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace.' I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, 'Let us start building!' So they committed themselves to the common good. But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they mocked and ridiculed us, saying, 'What is this that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?' Then I replied to them, 'The God of heaven is the one who will give us success, and we his servants are going to start building; but you have no share or claim or historic right in Jerusalem.'

Gospel Canticle The Magnificat

You have done great things, O God, and holy is your name.

- 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.**

You have done great things, O God, and holy is your name.

Prayers

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted
the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order:
grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven,
so, at your command,
they may help and defend us on earth;
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.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

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

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

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.