

Evening Prayer on Sunday, Sunday 12 October 2025

The Seventeenth 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 144

Happy are the people who have the Lord for their God.

- 1 Blessed be the Lord my rock, ♦
 who teaches my hands for war and my fingers for battle;
- 2 My steadfast help and my fortress,
 my stronghold and my deliverer,
 my shield in whom I trust, ♦
 who subdues the peoples under me.
- 3 O Lord, what are mortals that you should consider them; ♦
 mere human beings, that you should take thought for them?
- 4 They are like a breath of wind; ♦
 their days pass away like a shadow.
- 5 Bow your heavens, O Lord, and come down; ♦
 touch the mountains and they shall smoke.
- 6 Cast down your lightnings and scatter them; ♦
 shoot out your arrows and let thunder roar.
- 7 Reach down your hand from on high; ♦
 deliver me and take me out of the great waters,
 from the hand of foreign enemies,
- 8 Whose mouth speaks wickedness ♦
 and their right hand is the hand of falsehood.
- 9 O God, I will sing to you a new song; ♦
 I will play to you on a ten-stringed harp,
- 10 You that give salvation to kings ♦
 and have delivered David your servant.

- 11 Save me from the peril of the sword ♦
and deliver me from the hand of foreign enemies,
- 12 Whose mouth speaks wickedness ♦
and whose right hand is the hand of falsehood;
- 13 So that our sons in their youth
may be like well-nurtured plants, ♦
and our daughters like pillars
carved for the corners of the temple;
- 14 Our barns be filled with all manner of store; ♦
our flocks bearing thousands,
and ten thousands in our fields;
- 15 Our cattle be heavy with young: ♦
may there be no miscarriage or untimely birth,
no cry of distress in our streets.
- 16 Happy are the people whose blessing this is. ♦
Happy are the people who have the Lord for their God.

**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.**

Happy are the people who have the Lord for their God.

Canticle

**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.

Revelation 19.1b, 2a, 5b, 6b, 7, 9b

**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 - Nehemiah 6.1-16

Now when it was reported to Sanballat and Tobiah and to Geshem the Arab and to the rest of our enemies that I had built the wall and that there was no gap left in it (though up to that time I had not set up the doors in the gates), Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, 'Come and let us meet together in one of the villages in the plain of Ono.' But they intended to do me harm. So I sent messengers to them, saying, 'I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it to come down to you?' They sent to me four times in this way, and I answered them in the same manner. In the same way Sanballat for the fifth time sent his servant to me with an open letter in his hand. In it was written, 'It is reported among the nations—and Geshem also says it—that you and the Jews intend to rebel; that is why you are building the wall; and according to this report you wish to become their king. You have also set up prophets to proclaim in Jerusalem concerning you, "There is a king in Judah!" And now it will be reported to the king according to these words. So come, therefore, and let us confer together.' Then I sent to him, saying, 'No such things as you say have been done; you are inventing them out of your own mind' —for they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, 'Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done.' But now, O God, strengthen my hands.

One day when I went into the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah son of Mehetabel, who was confined to his house, he said, 'Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you; indeed, tonight they are coming to kill you.' But I said, 'Should a man like me run away? Would a man like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!' Then I perceived and saw that God had not sent him at all, but he had pronounced the prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. He was hired for this purpose, to intimidate me and make me sin by acting in this way, and so they could give me a bad name, in order to taunt me. Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid.

So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem; for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

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.

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.**

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

Prayers

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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.