

Evening Prayer on Sunday, Sunday 16 August 2026
The Eleventh 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 - Psalm 90

O Lord my God, in you I take refuge.

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge ♦
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the earth and the world were formed, ♦
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to dust and say: ♦
'Turn back, O children of earth.'
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday, ♦
which passes like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep them away like a dream; ♦
they fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; ♦
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 For we consume away in your displeasure; ♦
we are afraid at your wrathful indignation.
- 8 You have set our misdeeds before you ♦
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; ♦
our years come to an end like a sigh.
- 10 The days of our life are three score years and ten, or if our strength endures, even four score; ♦
yet the sum of them is but labour and sorrow, for they soon pass away and we are gone.
- 11 Who regards the power of your wrath ♦
and your indignation like those who fear you?
- 12 So teach us to number our days ♦
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
- 13 Turn again, O Lord; how long will you delay? ♦
Have compassion on your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us with your loving-kindness in the morning; ♦
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.
- 15 Give us gladness for the days you have afflicted us, ♦
and for the years in which we have seen adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works, ♦
and let your glory be over their children.
- 17 May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us; ♦
prosper our handiwork; O prosper the work of our hands.

**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.**

O Lord my God, in you I take refuge.

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 - 2 Kings 4.1-37

Now the wife of a member of the company of prophets cried to Elisha, 'Your servant my husband is dead; and you know that your servant feared the LORD, but a creditor has come to take my two children as slaves.' Elisha said to her, 'What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?' She answered, 'Your servant has nothing in the house, except a jar of oil.' He said, 'Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbours, empty vessels and not just a few. Then go in, and shut the door behind you and your children, and start pouring into all these vessels; when each is full, set it aside.' So she left him and shut the door behind her and her children; they kept bringing vessels to her, and she kept pouring. When the vessels were full, she said to her son, 'Bring me another vessel.' But he said to her, 'There are no more.' Then the oil stopped flowing. She came and told the man of God, and he said, 'Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your children can live on the rest.'

One day Elisha was passing through Shunem, where a wealthy woman lived, who urged him to have a meal. So whenever he passed that way, he would stop there for a meal. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure that this man who regularly passes our way is a holy man of God. Let us make a small roof chamber with walls, and put there for him a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp, so that he can stay there whenever he comes to us.'

One day when he came there, he went up to the chamber and lay down there. He said to his servant Gehazi, 'Call the Shunammite woman.' When he had called her, she stood before him. He said to him, 'Say to her, Since you have taken all this trouble for us, what may be done for you? Would you have a word spoken on your behalf to the king or to the commander of the army?' She answered, 'I live among my own people.' He said, 'What then may be done for her?' Gehazi answered, 'Well, she has no son, and her husband is old.' He said, 'Call her.' When he had called her, she stood at the door. He said, 'At this season, in due time, you shall embrace a son.' She replied, 'No, my lord, O man of God; do not deceive your servant.'

The woman conceived and bore a son at that season, in due time, as Elisha had declared to her. When the child was older, he went out one day to his father among the reapers. He complained to his father, 'Oh, my head, my head!' The father said to his servant, 'Carry him to his mother.' He carried him and brought him to his mother; the child sat on her lap until noon, and he died. She went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God, closed the door on him, and left. Then she called to her husband, and said, 'Send me one of the servants and one of the donkeys, so that I may quickly go to the man of God and come back again.' He said, 'Why go to him today? It is neither new moon nor sabbath.' She said, 'It will be all right.' Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant, 'Urge the animal on; do not hold back for me unless I tell you.' So she set out, and came to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her coming, he said to Gehazi his servant, 'Look, there is the Shunammite woman; run at once to meet her, and say to her, Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is the child all right?' She answered, 'It is all right.' When she came to the man of God at the mountain, she caught hold of his feet. Gehazi approached to push her away. But the man of God said, 'Let her alone, for she is in bitter distress; the LORD has hidden it from me and has not told me.' Then she said, 'Did I ask my lord for a son? Did I not say, Do not mislead me?' He said to Gehazi, 'Gird up your loins, and take my staff in your hand, and go. If you meet anyone, give no greeting, and if anyone greets you, do not answer; and lay my staff on the face of the child.' Then the mother of the child said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave without you.' So he rose up and followed her. Gehazi went on ahead and laid the staff on the face of the child, but there was no sound or sign of life. He came back to meet him and told him, 'The child has not awakened.'

When Elisha came into the house, he saw the child lying dead on his bed. So he went in and closed the door on the two of them, and prayed to the LORD. Then he got up on the bed and lay upon the child, putting his mouth upon his mouth, his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands; and while he lay bent over him, the flesh of the child became warm. He got down, walked once to and fro in the room, then got up again and bent over him; the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. Elisha summoned Gehazi and said, 'Call the Shunammite woman.' So he called her. When she came to him, he said, 'Take your son.' She came and fell at his feet, bowing to the ground; then she took her son and left.

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

O God, you declare your almighty power
most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace,
that we, running the way of your commandments,
may receive your gracious promises,
and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure;
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.