



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 21st April 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

All O God, make speed to save us.
 O Lord, make haste to help us.

All In your resurrection, O Christ,
 let heaven and earth rejoice. Alleluia.

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord,
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the deep waters of death
you brought your people to new birth
by raising your Son to life in triumph.
Through him dark death has been destroyed
and radiant life is everywhere restored.
As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light
may our lives reflect his glory
and our lips repeat the endless song.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Candles are lit.

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.

All

Amen.

Psalm 81.8-16

8 'Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: ♦
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

9 *'There shall be no strange god among you; ♦
you shall not worship a foreign god.*

10 'I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up from the land of Egypt; ♦
open your mouth wide and I shall fill it.'

*11 But my people would not hear my voice ♦
and Israel would not obey me.*

12 So I sent them away in the stubbornness of their hearts, ♦
and let them walk after their own counsels.

*13 O that my people would listen to me, ♦
that Israel would walk in my ways!*

14 Then I should soon put down their enemies ♦
and turn my hand against their adversaries.

*15 Those who hate the Lord would be humbled before him, ♦
and their punishment would last for ever.*

16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat ♦
and with honey from the rock would I satisfy them.

**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.**

First Reading: Exodus 16.4-15

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.' So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, 'In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?' And Moses said, 'When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.'

Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining." ' And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God." '

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.'

Second Reading: Revelation 2.12-17

'And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword:

'I know where you are living, where Satan's throne is. Yet you are holding fast to my name, and you did not deny your faith in me even in the days of Antipas my witness, my faithful one, who was killed among you, where

Satan lives. But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling-block before the people of Israel, so that they would eat food sacrificed to idols and practise fornication. So you also have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent then. If not, I will come to you soon and make war against them with the sword of my mouth. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give a white stone, and on the white stone is written a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.

A short reflection follows

The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.

**The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.**

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.

He has become my salvation.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.**

from Psalm 118

The Magnificat

- 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

**All 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.**

Prayers

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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.**

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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