



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 7th July 2024

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

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

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As darkness falls you renew your promise
to reveal among us the light of your presence.
By the light of Christ, your living Word,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
that we may walk as children of light
and sing your praise throughout the world.
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 63

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; ♦
my soul is athirst for you.

2 *My flesh also faints for you, ♦
as in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.*

3 So would I gaze upon you in your holy place, ♦
that I might behold your power and your glory.

4 *Your loving-kindness is better than life itself ♦
and so my lips shall praise you.*

5 I will bless you as long as I live ♦
and lift up my hands in your name.

6 *My soul shall be satisfied, as with marrow and fatness, ♦
and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips,*

7 When I remember you upon my bed ♦
and meditate on you in the watches of the night.

8 *For you have been my helper ♦
and under the shadow of your wings will I rejoice.*

9 My soul clings to you; ♦
your right hand shall hold me fast.

10 *But those who seek my soul to destroy it ♦
shall go down to the depths of the earth;*

11 Let them fall by the edge of the sword ♦
and become a portion for jackals.

12 *But the king shall rejoice in God;
all those who swear by him shall be glad, ♦
for the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.*

Psalm 64

1 Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; ♦
preserve my life from fear of the enemy.

2 *Hide me from the conspiracy of the wicked, ♦
from the gathering of evildoers.*

3 They sharpen their tongue like a sword ♦
and aim their bitter words like arrows,

4 *That they may shoot at the blameless from hiding places; ♦
suddenly they shoot, and are not seen.*

5 They hold fast to their evil course; ♦
they talk of laying snares, saying, 'Who will see us?'

6 *They search out wickedness and lay a cunning trap, ♦
for deep are the inward thoughts of the heart.*

7 But God will shoot at them with his swift arrow, ♦
and suddenly they shall be wounded.

8 *Their own tongues shall make them fall, ♦
and all who see them shall wag their heads in scorn.*

9 All peoples shall fear and tell what God has done, ♦
and they will ponder all his works.

10 *The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord
and put their trust in him, ♦
and all that are true of heart shall exult.*

**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: Jeremiah 20.1-11a

Now the priest Pashhur son of Immer, who was chief officer in the house of the Lord, heard Jeremiah prophesying these things. Then Pashhur struck the prophet Jeremiah, and put him in the stocks that were in the upper Benjamin Gate of the house of the Lord. The next morning when Pashhur released Jeremiah from the stocks, Jeremiah said to him, The Lord has named you not Pashhur but 'Terror-all-around.' For thus says the Lord: I am making you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies while you look on. And I will give all Judah

into the hand of the king of Babylon; he shall carry them captive to Babylon, and shall kill them with the sword. I will give all the wealth of this city, all its gains, all its prized belongings, and all the treasures of the kings of Judah into the hand of their enemies, who shall plunder them, and seize them, and carry them to Babylon. And you, Pashhur, and all who live in your house, shall go into captivity, and to Babylon you shall go; there you shall die, and there you shall be buried, you and all your friends, to whom you have prophesied falsely.

O Lord, you have enticed me,
and I was enticed;
you have overpowered me,
and you have prevailed.
I have become a laughing-stock all day long;
everyone mocks me.
For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
I must shout, 'Violence and destruction!'
For the word of the Lord has become for me
a reproach and derision all day long.
If I say, 'I will not mention him,
or speak any more in his name',
then within me there is something like a burning fire
shut up in my bones;
I am weary with holding it in,
and I cannot.
For I hear many whispering:
'Terror is all around!
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!'
All my close friends
are watching for me to stumble.
'Perhaps he can be enticed,
and we can prevail against him,
and take our revenge on him.'
But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;
therefore my persecutors will stumble,
and they will not prevail.

Second Reading: Romans 14.1-17

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.'

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Let us therefore no longer pass judgement on one another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling-block or hindrance in the way of another. I know and am persuaded in the Lord Jesus that nothing is unclean in itself; but it is unclean for anyone who thinks it unclean. If your brother or sister is being injured by what you eat, you are no longer walking in love. Do not let what you eat cause the ruin of one for whom Christ died. So do not let your good be spoken of as evil. For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

A short reflection follows

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

The Lord is the strength of my life.

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

**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

from Psalm 27 and John 1

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

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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.

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.

**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.

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