



# Evening Prayer

## Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024

### Fourteenth 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 119.1-16

1 Blessed are those whose way is pure, ♦  
who walk in the law of the Lord.

2 *Blessed are those who keep his testimonies ♦  
and seek him with their whole heart,*

3 Those who do no wickedness, ♦  
but walk in his ways.

4 *You, O Lord, have charged ♦  
that we should diligently keep your commandments.*

5 O that my ways were made so direct ♦  
that I might keep your statutes.

6 *Then should I not be put to shame, ♦  
because I have regard for all your commandments.*

7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, ♦  
when I have learned your righteous judgements.

8 *I will keep your statutes; ♦  
O forsake me not utterly.*

9 How shall young people cleanse their way ♦  
to keep themselves according to your word?

10 *With my whole heart have I sought you; ♦  
O let me not go astray from your commandments.*

11 Your words have I hidden within my heart, ♦  
that I should not sin against you.

12 *Blessed are you, O Lord; ♦  
O teach me your statutes.*

13 With my lips have I been telling ♦  
of all the judgements of your mouth.

14 *I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies ♦  
than in all manner of riches.*

15 I will meditate on your commandments ♦  
and contemplate your ways.

16 *My delight shall be in your statutes ♦  
and I will not forget your word.*

**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 12.21-27*

Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, ‘Go, select lambs for your families, and slaughter the passover lamb. Take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood in the basin. None of you shall go outside the door of your house until morning. For the Lord will pass through to strike down the Egyptians; when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over that door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you down. You shall observe this rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. When you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. And when your children ask you, “What do you mean by this observance?” you shall say, “It is the passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses.”’ And the people bowed down and worshipped.

*Second Reading: Matthew 4.23 – 5.20*

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs,

epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your

righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.'

*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*

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
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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