



# Evening Prayer

## Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025

### Candlemas

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

All      From the rising of the sun to its setting  
          **your glory is proclaimed in all the world.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,  
our light and our salvation,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
You gave your Christ as a light to the nations,  
and through the anointing of the Spirit  
you established us as a royal priesthood.  
As you call us into your marvellous light,  
may our lives bear witness to your truth  
and our lips never cease to proclaim your praise.  
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 122**

1 I was glad when they said to me, ♦  
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'

2 *And now our feet are standing ♦  
within your gates, O Jerusalem;*

3 Jerusalem, built as a city ♦  
that is at unity in itself.

4 *Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, ♦  
as is decreed for Israel,  
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.*

5 For there are set the thrones of judgement, ♦  
the thrones of the house of David.

6 *O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ♦  
'May they prosper who love you.*

7 'Peace be within your walls ♦  
and tranquillity within your palaces.'

8 *For my kindred and companions' sake, ♦  
I will pray that peace be with you.*

9 For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, ♦  
I will seek to do you good.

## **Psalm 132**

1 Lord, remember for David ♦  
all the hardships he endured;

2 *How he swore an oath to the Lord ♦  
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:*

3 'I will not come within the shelter of my house, ♦  
nor climb up into my bed;

4 *'I will not allow my eyes to sleep, ♦  
nor let my eyelids slumber,*

5 'Until I find a place for the Lord, ♦  
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.'

6 *Now, we heard of the ark in Ephrathah ♦  
and found it in the fields of Ja-ar.*

7 Let us enter his dwelling place ♦  
and fall low before his footstool.

8 *Arise, O Lord, into your resting place, ♦  
you and the ark of your strength.*

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness ♦  
and your faithful ones sing with joy.

10 *For your servant David's sake, ♦  
turn not away the face of your anointed.*

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David, ♦  
a promise from which he will not shrink:

12 *'Of the fruit of your body ♦  
shall I set upon your throne.*

13 'If your children keep my covenant  
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, ♦  
their children also shall sit upon your throne for evermore.'

14 *For the Lord has chosen Zion for himself; ♦  
he has desired her for his habitation:*

15 'This shall be my resting place for ever; ♦  
here will I dwell, for I have longed for her.

16 *'I will abundantly bless her provision; ♦  
her poor will I satisfy with bread.*

17 'I will clothe her priests with salvation, ♦  
and her faithful ones shall rejoice and sing.

18 'There will I make a horn to spring up for David; ♦  
I will keep a lantern burning for my anointed.

19 'As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; ♦  
but on him shall his crown be bright.'

**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: Haggai 2.1-9*

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

*Second Reading: John 2.18-22*

The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking

of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

*A short reflection follows*

Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.  
**Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**  
God's salvation has been openly shown to all people.  
**The glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**  
Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit.  
**Arise, shine, for your light has come;  
the glory of the Lord is rising upon you.**

*from Isaiah 60*

*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 and ever-living God,  
clothed in majesty,  
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,  
in substance of our flesh:  
grant that we may be presented to you  
with pure and clean hearts,  
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

Believing the promises of God,  
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 Christ, who sends us to the nations,  
give us the power of his Spirit.  
**Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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