



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 12th January 2025

The Baptism of Christ

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 46

1 God is our refuge and strength, ♦
a very present help in trouble;

2 *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, ♦
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;*

3 Though the waters rage and swell, ♦
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.

4 *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, ♦
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.*

5 God is in the midst of her;
therefore shall she not be removed; ♦
God shall help her at the break of day.

6 *The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken, ♦
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.*

7 The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8 *Come and behold the works of the Lord, ♦
what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.*

9 He makes wars to cease in all the world; ♦
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.

10 *'Be still, and know that I am God; ♦
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth.'*

11 The Lord of hosts is with us; ♦
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Psalm 47

1 Clap your hands together, all you peoples; ♦
O sing to God with shouts of joy.

2 For the Lord Most High is to be feared; ♦
he is the great King over all the earth.

3 He subdued the peoples under us ♦
and the nations under our feet.

4 He has chosen our heritage for us, ♦
the pride of Jacob, whom he loves.

5 God has gone up with a merry noise, ♦
the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

6 O sing praises to God, sing praises; ♦
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

7 For God is the King of all the earth; ♦
sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; ♦
God has taken his seat upon his holy throne.

9 The nobles of the peoples are gathered together ♦
with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 For the powers of the earth belong to God ♦
and he is very highly exalted.

**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: Isaiah 55.1-11

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Second Reading: Romans 6.1-11

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

I 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

Eternal Father,
who at the baptism of Jesus
revealed him to be your Son,
anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit,
that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children;
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.

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.