



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 9th March 2025

First Sunday of Lent

○ God, make speed to save us.
○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,
according to your judgement give us life.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,
that freed from the misery of sin and shame
we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.
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

All

now and for ever.

Amen.

Psalm 119.73-88

73 Your hands have made me and fashioned me; ♦
give me understanding, that I may learn your commandments.

*74 Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, ♦
because I have hoped in your word.*

75 I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right, ♦
and that in very faithfulness you caused me to be troubled.

*76 Let your faithful love be my comfort, ♦
according to your promise to your servant.*

77 Let your tender mercies come to me, that I may live, ♦
for your law is my delight.

*78 Let the proud be put to shame, for they wrong me with lies; ♦
but I will meditate on your commandments.*

79 Let those who fear you turn to me, ♦
even those who know your testimonies.

*80 Let my heart be sound in your statutes, ♦
that I may not be put to shame.*

*81 My soul is pining for your salvation; ♦
I have hoped in your word.*

82 My eyes fail with watching for your word, ♦
while I say, 'O when will you comfort me?'

*83 I have become like a wineskin in the smoke, ♦
yet I do not forget your statutes.*

84 How many are the days of your servant? ♦
When will you bring judgement on those who persecute me?

*85 The proud have dug pits for me ♦
in defiance of your law.*

86 All your commandments are true; ♦
help me, for they persecute me with falsehood.

87 *They had almost made an end of me on earth, ♦
but I have not forsaken your commandments.*

88 Give me life according to your loving-kindness; ♦
so shall I keep the testimonies of your mouth.

**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: Jonah 3

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: 'By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.'

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had

Second Reading: Luke 18.9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

A short reflection follows

Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.
**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**
Make haste to help me,
O Lord of my salvation.
Be not far from me, O my God.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**

from Psalm 38

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 fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
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.

Trusting in the compassion of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us
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 God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.