



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 9th November 2025

Third Sunday before Advent

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

All Your faithful servants bless you.
 make known the glory of your kingdom.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
our light and our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
Now, as darkness is falling,
wash away our transgressions,
cleanse us by your refining fire
and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.
By the light of Christ,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
and make us ready to enter your kingdom,
where songs of praise for ever sound.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

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 40

1 I waited patiently for the Lord; ♦
he inclined to me and heard my cry.

2 *He brought me out of the roaring pit,
out of the mire and clay; ♦
he set my feet upon a rock and made my footing sure.*

3 He has put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God; ♦
many shall see and fear
and put their trust in the Lord.

4 *Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, ♦
who does not turn to the proud that follow a lie.*

5 Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God.
How great your designs for us! ♦
There is none that can be compared with you.

6 *If I were to proclaim them and tell of them ♦
they would be more than I am able to express.*

7 Sacrifice and offering you do not desire ♦
but my ears you have opened;

8 *Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you have not required; ♦
then said I: 'Lo, I come.*

9 'In the scroll of the book it is written of me
that I should do your will, O my God; ♦
I delight to do it: your law is within my heart.'

10 *I have declared your righteousness in the great
congregation; ♦
behold, I did not restrain my lips,
and that, O Lord, you know.*

11 Your righteousness I have not hidden in my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; ♦
I have not concealed your loving-kindness and truth
from the great congregation.

*12 Do not withhold your compassion from me, O Lord; ♦
let your love and your faithfulness always preserve me,*

*13 For innumerable troubles have come about me;
my sins have overtaken me so that I cannot look up; ♦
they are more in number than the hairs of my head,
and my heart fails me.*

*14 Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me; ♦
O Lord, make haste to help me.*

*15 Let them be ashamed and altogether dismayed
who seek after my life to destroy it; ♦
let them be driven back and put to shame
who wish me evil.*

*16 Let those who heap insults upon me ♦
be desolate because of their shame.*

*17 Let all who seek you rejoice in you and be glad; ♦
let those who love your salvation say always,
'The Lord is great.'*

*18 Though I am poor and needy, ♦
the Lord cares for me.*

*19 You are my helper and my deliverer; ♦
O my God, make no delay.*

**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: 1 Kings 3.1-15

Solomon made a marriage alliance with Pharaoh king of Egypt; he took Pharaoh's daughter and brought her into the city of David, until he had finished building his own house and the house of the Lord and the wall around Jerusalem. The people were sacrificing at the high places, however, because no house had yet been built for the name of the Lord.

Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David; only, he sacrificed and offered incense at the high places. The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high

place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt-offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honour all your life; no other king shall compare with you. If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.'

Then Solomon awoke; it had been a dream. He came to Jerusalem, where he stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. He offered up burnt-offerings and offerings of well-being, and provided a feast for all his servants.

Second Reading: Romans 8.31-end

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long;

we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A short reflection follows

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.
**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**
For I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.
And afterwards receive me with glory.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

from Psalm 73

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 Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven,
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 has opened the kingdom of heaven,
bring us to reign with him in glory.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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