



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent

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

All Reveal among us the light of your presence
 that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
creator of light and darkness,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
As evening falls, you renew your promise
to reveal among us the light of your presence.
May your word be a lantern to our feet
and a light upon our path
that we may behold your coming among us.
Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness
and free our tongues to sing your praise.
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 9

1 I will give thanks to you, Lord, with my whole heart; ♦
I will tell of all your marvellous works.

2 *I will be glad and rejoice in you; ♦
I will make music to your name, O Most High.*

3 When my enemies are driven back, ♦
they stumble and perish at your presence.

4 *For you have maintained my right and my cause; ♦
you sat on your throne giving righteous judgement.*

5 You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the
wicked; ♦
you have blotted out their name for ever and ever.

6 *The enemy was utterly laid waste. ♦
You uprooted their cities;
their very memory has perished.*

7 But the Lord shall endure for ever; ♦
he has made fast his throne for judgement.

8 *For he shall rule the world with righteousness ♦
and govern the peoples with equity.*

9 Then will the Lord be a refuge for the oppressed, ♦
a refuge in the time of trouble.

10 *And those who know your name will put their trust in
you, ♦
for you, Lord, have never failed those who seek you.*

11 Sing praises to the Lord who dwells in Zion; ♦
declare among the peoples the things he has done.

12 *The avenger of blood has remembered them; ♦
he did not forget the cry of the oppressed.*

13 Have mercy upon me, O Lord; ♦
consider the trouble I suffer from those who hate me,
you that lift me up from the gates of death;

*14 That I may tell all your praises in the gates of the city of
Zion ♦
and rejoice in your salvation.*

*15 The nations shall sink into the pit of their making ♦
and in the snare which they set will their own foot be
taken.*

*16 The Lord makes himself known by his acts of justice; ♦
the wicked are snared in the works of their own hands.*

*17 They shall return to the land of darkness, ♦
all the nations that forget God.*

*18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten ♦
and the hope of the poor shall not perish for ever.*

*19 Arise, O Lord, and let not mortals have the upper
hand; ♦
let the nations be judged before your face.*

*20 Put them in fear, O Lord, ♦
that the nations may know themselves to be but mortal.*

**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 52.1-12

Awake, awake,
put on your strength, O Zion!
Put on your beautiful garments,
O Jerusalem, the holy city;
for the uncircumcised and the unclean
shall enter you no more.
Shake yourself from the dust, rise up,
O captive Jerusalem;
loose the bonds from your neck,
O captive daughter Zion!

For thus says the Lord: You were sold for nothing, and you shall be
redeemed without money. For thus says the Lord God: Long ago,
my people went down into Egypt to reside there as aliens; the
Assyrian, too, has oppressed them without cause. Now therefore,

what am I doing here, says the Lord, seeing that my people are taken away without cause? Their rulers howl, says the Lord, and continually, all day long, my name is despised. Therefore my people shall know my name; therefore on that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here am I.

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Depart, depart, go out from there!
Touch no unclean thing;
go out from the midst of it, purify yourselves,
you who carry the vessels of the Lord.
For you shall not go out in haste,
and you shall not go in flight;
for the Lord will go before you,
and the God of Israel will be your rearguard.

Second Reading: Matthew 24.15-28

'So when you see the desolating sacrilege standing in the holy place, as was spoken of by the prophet Daniel (let the reader understand), then those in Judea must flee to the mountains; someone on the housetop must not go down to take what is in the house; someone in the field must not turn back to get a coat. Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a

sabbath. For at that time there will be great suffering, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. And if those days had not been cut short, no one would be saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. Then if anyone says to you, "Look! Here is the Messiah!" or "There he is!"—do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and produce great signs and omens, to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. Take note, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, "Look! He is in the wilderness", do not go out. If they say, "Look! He is in the inner rooms", do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

A short reflection follows

My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:
in your word is my hope.

**My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:
in your word is my hope.**

There is forgiveness with you,
so that you shall be feared.

In your word is my hope.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**My soul is waiting for you, O Lord:
in your word is my hope.**

from Psalm 130

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,
who gave such grace to your apostle Saint Andrew
that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ
and brought his brother with him:
call us by your holy word,
and give us grace to follow you without delay
and to tell the good news of your kingdom;
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.

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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 the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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Advent
Sunday, 30 November 2025
The First Sunday of Advent
Preparation
O God, make speed to save us.
Allo Lord, make haste to help us.