



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

All In your resurrection, O Christ,
 let heaven and earth rejoice. **Alleluia.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord,
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the deep waters of death
you brought your people to new birth
by raising your Son to life in triumph.
Through him dark death has been destroyed
and radiant life is everywhere restored.
As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light
may our lives reflect his glory
and our lips repeat the endless song.
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.

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 147.1-12

1 Alleluia.

How good it is to make music for our God, ♦
how joyful to honour him with praise.

*2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem ♦
and gathers together the outcasts of Israel.*

3 He heals the brokenhearted ♦
and binds up all their wounds.

*4 He counts the number of the stars ♦
and calls them all by their names.*

5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; ♦
his wisdom is beyond all telling.

*6 The Lord lifts up the poor, ♦
but casts down the wicked to the ground.*

7 Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; ♦
make music to our God upon the lyre;

*8 Who covers the heavens with clouds ♦
and prepares rain for the earth;*

9 Who makes grass to grow upon the mountains ♦
and green plants to serve our needs.

*10 He gives the beasts their food ♦
and the young ravens when they cry.*

11 He takes no pleasure in the power of a horse, ♦
no delight in human strength;

*12 But the Lord delights in those who fear him, ♦
who put their trust in his steadfast love.*

**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: Zechariah 4.1-10

The angel who talked with me came again, and wakened me, as one is wakened from sleep. He said to me, 'What do you see?' And I said, 'I see a lampstand all of gold, with a bowl on the top of it; there are seven lamps on it, with seven lips on each of the lamps that are on the top of it. And by it there are two olive trees, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.' I said to the angel who talked with me, 'What are these, my lord?' Then the angel who talked with me answered me, 'Do you not know what these are?' I said, 'No, my lord.' He said to me, 'This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, says the Lord of hosts. What are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain; and he shall bring out the top stone amid shouts of "Grace, grace to it!"'

Moreover, the word of the Lord came to me, saying, 'The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it. Then you will know that the Lord of hosts has sent me to you. For whoever has despised the day of small things shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel. 'These seven are the eyes of the Lord, which range through the whole earth.'

Second Reading: Revelation 21.1-14

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I

heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'
And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making
all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are
trustworthy and true.' Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the
Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I
will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those
who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and
they will be my children. But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the
polluted, the murderers, the fornicators, the sorcerers, the
idolaters, and all liars, their place will be in the lake that burns with
fire and sulphur, which is the second death.'

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the
seven last plagues came and said to me, 'Come, I will show you the
bride, the wife of the Lamb.' And in the spirit he carried me away
to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem
coming down out of heaven from God. It has the glory of God and
a radiance like a very rare jewel, like jasper, clear as crystal. It has a
great, high wall with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels,
and on the gates are inscribed the names of the twelve tribes of the
Israelites; on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the
south three gates, and on the west three gates. And the wall of the
city has twelve foundations, and on them are the twelve names of
the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

A short reflection follows

The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.

**The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.**

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.

He has become my salvation.

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

**The Lord is my strength and my song:
he has become my salvation.**

from Psalm 118

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 through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going before us
 you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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 risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

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