

Evening Prayer

Sunday, 13th September 2026

Patronal Festival

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

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As darkness falls you renew your promise
to reveal among us the light of your presence.
By the light of Christ, your living Word,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
that we may walk as children of light
and sing your praise throughout the world.
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 132

1 Lord, remember for David ♦
all the hardships he endured;

*2 How he swore an oath to the Lord ♦
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:*

3 'I will not come within the shelter of my house, ♦
nor climb up into my bed;

*4 'I will not allow my eyes to sleep, ♦
nor let my eyelids slumber;*

5 'Until I find a place for the Lord, ♦
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.'

*6 Now, we heard of the ark in Ephrathah ♦
and found it in the fields of Ja-ar:*

7 Let us enter his dwelling place ♦
and fall low before his footstool.

*8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting place, ♦
you and the ark of your strength.*

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness ♦
and your faithful ones sing with joy.

*10 For your servant David's sake, ♦
turn not away the face of your anointed.*

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David, ♦
a promise from which he will not shrink:

*12 'Of the fruit of your body ♦
shall I set upon your throne.*

13 'If your children keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall teach them, ♦

their children also shall sit upon your throne for evermore.'

*14 For the Lord has chosen Zion for himself; ♦
he has desired her for his habitation:*

15 'This shall be my resting place for ever; ♦
here will I dwell, for I have longed for her.

*16 'I will abundantly bless her provision; ♦
her poor will I satisfy with bread.*

17 'I will clothe her priests with salvation, ♦
and her faithful ones shall rejoice and sing.

*18 'There will I make a horn to spring up for David; ♦
I will keep a lantern burning for my anointed.*

19 'As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; ♦
but on him shall his crown be bright.'

**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: Song of Solomon 2.1-7

I am a rose of Sharon,
a lily of the valleys.

As a lily among brambles,
so is my love among maidens.

As an apple tree among the trees of the wood,
so is my beloved among young men.

With great delight I sat in his shadow,
and his fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house,
and his intention towards me was love.
Sustain me with raisins,
refresh me with apples;
for I am faint with love.
O that his left hand were under my head,
and that his right hand embraced me!
I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,
by the gazelles or the wild does:
do not stir up or awaken love
until it is ready!

Second Reading: Acts 1.6-14

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they

had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

A short reflection follows

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit.

Fear not, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name; you are mine.

from Isaiah 43

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 looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and chose her to be the mother of your only Son:
grant that we who are redeemed by his blood
may share with her in the glory of your eternal 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.

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.**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.