



Evening Prayer

Sunday, 4th October 2026

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

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.

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.

Psalms 136*

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever.

2 Give thanks to the God of gods, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever.

3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

4 Who alone does great wonders, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

5 Who by wisdom made the heavens, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

6 Who laid out the earth upon the waters, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

7 Who made the great lights, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

8 The sun to rule the day, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

9 The moon and the stars to govern the night, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

10 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

11 And brought out Israel from among them, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

12 With a mighty hand and outstretched arm, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

13 Who divided the Red Sea in two, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

15 But Pharaoh and his host he overthrew in the Red Sea, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

16 Who led his people through the wilderness, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

17 Who smote great kings, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

18 And slew mighty kings, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

19 Sihon, king of the Amorites, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

20 And Og, the king of Bashan, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

21 And gave away their land for a heritage, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

22 A heritage for Israel his servant, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

23 Who remembered us when we were in trouble, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

24 And delivered us from our enemies, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever;

25 Who gives food to all creatures, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever.

26 Give thanks to the God of heaven, ♦
for his mercy endures for ever.

**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: Proverbs 2.1-11

My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;
if you indeed cry out for insight,
and raise your voice for understanding;
if you seek it like silver,
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.
For the Lord gives wisdom;
from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;
he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;
he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly,
guarding the paths of justice
and preserving the way of his faithful ones.
Then you will understand righteousness and justice
and equity, every good path;
for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;
prudence will watch over you;
and understanding will guard you.

Second Reading: 1 John 2.1-17

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Now by this we may be sure that we know him, if we obey his commandments. Whoever says, 'I have come to know him', but does not obey his commandments, is a liar, and in such a person the truth does not exist; but whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection. By this we may be sure that we are in him: whoever says, 'I abide in him', ought to walk just as he walked.

Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Whoever says, 'I am in the light', while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

I am writing to you, little children,

because your sins are forgiven on account of his name.

I am writing to you, fathers,

because you know him who is from the beginning.

I am writing to you, young people,

because you have conquered the evil one.

I write to you, children,

because you know the Father.

I write to you, fathers,
because you know him who is from the beginning.
I write to you, young people,
because you are strong
and the word of God abides in you,
and you have overcome the evil one.

Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live for ever.

A short reflection follows

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.
**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.
The Lord is the strength of my life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

from Psalm 27 and John 1

The Magnificat

I 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 and everlasting God,
increase in us your gift of faith
that, forsaking what lies behind
and reaching out to that which is before,
we may run the way of your commandments
and win the crown of everlasting joy;

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.

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