

Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.

All O Lord, make haste to help us.

Your faithful servants bless you.

All They make known the glory of your kingdom.

Hymn

Jerusalem the golden,
With milk and honey blest,
Beneath thy contemplation
Sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O I know not,
What social joys are there,
What radiancy of glory,
What light beyond compare.

They stand, those halls of Sion,
Conjubilant with song,
And bright with many an angel,
And all the martyr throng;
The Prince is ever in them,
The daylight is serene,
The pastures of the blessed
Are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David,
And there, from care released,
The song of them that triumph,
The shout of them that feast;
And they who, with their Leader,
Have conquered in the fight,
For ever and for ever
Are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part:
His only, his for ever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art!

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th Century; Tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

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Music: Alexander Ewing (1830-1895)

EWING

This opening prayer may be said

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

A momentary 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 forever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The Psalm appointed for the day is chanted or said.

Each psalm ends with:

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 forever.
Amen.

First Reading

Canticle

Refrain:

All **Rejoice and be glad for you are the light of the world,**
and great is your reward in heaven.

- 1 Blessed are the poor in spirit, ♦
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 2 Blessed are those who mourn, ♦
for they shall be comforted.
- 3 Blessed are the meek, ♦
for they shall inherit the earth.
- 4 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, ♦
for they shall be satisfied.

- 5 Blessed are the merciful, ♦
for they shall obtain mercy.
- 6 Blessed are the pure in heart, ♦
for they shall see God.
- 7 Blessed are the peacemakers, ♦
for they shall be called children of God.
- 8 Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake, ♦
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5.3-10

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 forever.
Amen.

All **Rejoice and be glad for you are the light of the world,**
and great is your reward in heaven.

Second Reading

Responsory

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel and afterwards receive me with glory.

All **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.

All **And afterwards receive me with glory.**

from Psalm 73

Refrain:

All The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

- 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 forever.
Amen.**

All The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

Prayers

In every age you have raised up holy men and women
to reflect the light of Christ and to teach us the way of holiness.

We thank you for those who have been teachers in the school of Christ:
give understanding to those who study the faith that the Church has handed on,
and clarity to those who communicate the gospel in a changing world ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have been shepherds of your people:
give a pastoral heart to deacons, priests and bishops,
and the needful gifts to all your people in their ministry ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those whom you have called to live in community:
establish mutual love among those drawn into fellowship in your service,
and bless with Christ's presence all the communities to which we relate ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have brought wholeness
through the medicine of the gospel:
give skill to all who minister healing and reconciliation in your name,
and comfort all who cry out to you from any sort of distress ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for the noble army of martyrs
by the shedding of whose blood the Church has been enriched:
keep under your protection those who are persecuted for the cause of Christ,
and acknowledge, we pray,
those who have passed through death trusting your promises...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We give especial thanks today for the life and witness of Saint ...
As we celebrate *his/her* memory and rejoice in *his/her* friendship,
we ask you to bless ...
Bring into one communion and fellowship all those for whom Christ died.
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

In communion with all the saints,
let us commend the world to the mercy and protection of God.

Other prayers are offered and a brief silence is kept.

The Collect

The Collect of the day or the following is said

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son
Christ our Lord: give us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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
forever and ever.
Amen.

The Conclusion

May Christ, who has opened the kingdom of heaven,
bring us to reign with him in glory.

***All* Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

***All* Thanks be to God.**