

Morning Prayer
Passiontide
Saturday, 4 April 2020

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
All: and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Let your ways be known upon earth,
All: your saving power among the nations.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief
your only Son was lifted up
that he might draw the whole world to himself.
May we walk this day in the way of the cross
and always be ready to share its weight,
declaring your love for all the world.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All: Blessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or A Song of Lamentation

1 Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by? ♦
Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,

2 **Which was brought upon me, ♦**
which the Lord inflicted
on the day of his fierce anger.

3 For these things I weep;
my eyes flow with tears; ♦
for a comforter is far from me,
one to revive my courage.

4 **Remember my affliction and my bitterness, ♦**
the wormwood and the gall!

5 But this I call to mind, ♦
and therefore I have hope:

6 **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, ♦**
his mercies never come to an end;

7 They are new every morning; ♦

great is your faithfulness.

8 'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul, ♦
'therefore I will hope in him.'

9 The Lord is good to those who wait for him, ♦
to the soul that seeks him.

10 It is good that we should wait quietly ♦
for the salvation of the Lord.

11 For the Lord will not reject for ever; ♦
though he causes grief, he will have compassion,

12 According to the abundance of his steadfast love; ♦
for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

Lamentations 1.12, 16a,b; 3.19, 21-26, 31-33

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.

This opening prayer may be said

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All: Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 23

Refrain: **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

1 The Lord is my shepherd; ♦
therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures ♦

and leads me beside still waters. R

3 He shall refresh my soul ♦
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; ♦
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. R**

5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me; ♦
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.

**6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, ♦
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Refrain: **I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

O God, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ
from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence
and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home
and dwell with him in your house for ever.

Psalm 127

Refrain: **The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in.**

1 Unless the Lord builds the house, ♦
those who build it labour in vain.

**2 Unless the Lord keeps the city, ♦
the guard keeps watch in vain.**

3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early
and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, ♦
for he gives his beloved sleep. **R**

**4 Children are a heritage from the Lord ♦
and the fruit of the womb is his gift.**

5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, ♦
so are the children of one's youth.

6 Happy are those who have their quiver full of them: ♦

**they shall not be put to shame
when they dispute with their enemies in the gate.**

**Refrain: The Lord shall keep watch over your going out
and your coming in.**

Lord, you are ever watchful
and bless us with your gifts;
as you provide for all our needs,
so help us to build only what pleases you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end 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 for ever. Amen.**

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

Exodus 11

The Lord said to Moses, 'I will bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go from here; indeed, when he lets you go, he will drive you away. Tell the people that every man is to ask his neighbour and every woman is to ask her neighbour for objects of silver and gold.' The Lord gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover, Moses himself was a man of great importance in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's officials, and in the sight of the people.

Moses said, 'Thus says the Lord: About midnight I will go out through Egypt. Every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne to the firstborn of the female slave who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the livestock. Then there will be a loud cry throughout the whole land of Egypt, such as has never been nor will ever be again. But not a dog shall growl at any of the Israelites—not at people, not at animals—so that you may know that the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel. Then all these officials of yours shall come down to me, and bow low to me, saying, "Leave us, you and all the people who follow you." After that I will leave.' And in hot anger he left Pharaoh.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Pharaoh will not listen to you, in order that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.' Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; but the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go out of his land.

Canticle

A Song of the Lord's Gracious Deeds, or another suitable canticle, for example, number 23 (page 574), number 42 (page 593) or number 43 (page 594), may be said

**Refrain: I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.**

- 1 Who is this that comes from Edom, ♦
coming from Bozrah, his garments stained crimson?
- 2 **Who is this in glorious apparel, ♦
marching in the greatness of his strength?**
- 3 'It is I, who announce that right has won the day, ♦
it is I,' says the Lord, 'for I am mighty to save.'
- 4 **Why are your robes all red, O Lord, ♦
and your garments like theirs who tread the winepress?**
- 5 'I have trodden the winepress alone, ♦
and from the peoples no one was with me.'
- 6 **I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, ♦
the praises of the Most High;**
- 7 All that God has done for us in his mercy, ♦
by his many acts of love.
- 8 **For God said, 'Surely, they are my people,
my children who will not deal falsely,' ♦
and he became their Saviour in all their distress.**
- 9 So God redeemed them by his love and pity; ♦
he lifted them up and carried them
through all the days of old.

Isaiah 63.1-3a, 7-9

**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.**

**All: I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord,
the praises of the Most High.**

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.

Hebrews 13.17-end

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls and will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with sighing—for that would be harmful to you.

Pray for us; we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honourably in all things. I urge you all the more to do this, so that I may be restored to you very soon.

Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, bear with my word of exhortation, for I have written to you briefly. I want you to know that our brother Timothy has been set free; and if he comes in time, he will be with me when I see you. Greet all your leaders and all the saints. Those from Italy send you greetings. Grace be with all of you.

A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow

- We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;
All: by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.
God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong.
- All: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.**
We preach Christ crucified,
the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- All: By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.**
God forbid that I should glory,
save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- All: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;**
by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

cf 1 Corinthians 1 and Galatians 6

Gospel Canticle

*The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is normally said,
or Saviour of the World (page 644) may be said*

Refrain: **The word of the cross is folly
to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved
it is the power of God.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
 who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 **He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
 born of the house of his servant David.**
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
 to save us from our enemies,
 from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 **To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
 and to remember his holy covenant.**

- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 **Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 **To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.**
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 **To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Luke 1.68-79

**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.**

Refrain: **The word of the cross is folly
to those who are perishing,
but to those who are being saved
it is the power of God.**

Prayers

Intercessions are offered

- for the day and its tasks
- for the world and its needs
- for the Church and her life

Prayers may include the following concerns from the cycle on pages 364–365

The persecuted Church

- The oppressed peoples of the world
- All who are lonely
- All who are near to death
- All who are facing loss

A form of prayer found on page 381 may be used.

The Litany on pages 400-403 may be said instead of the Prayers.

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day is said

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
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.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Standing at the foot of the cross,
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 Conclusion

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross,
set us free to serve him with joy.

All: Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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