

Evening Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer The Eleventh Sunday After Trinity

¶ *Introduction*

Dearly beloved brethren,
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to
acknowledge and confess our manifold sins
and wickedness; and that we should not
dissemble nor cloak them before the face of
almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly,
penitent and obedient heart; to the end that we
may obtain forgiveness of the same by his
infinite goodness and mercy.
And although we ought at all times humbly to
acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought
we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble
and meet together to render thanks for the
great benefits that we have received at his
hands, to set forth his most worthy praise,
to hear his most holy word, and to ask those
things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.
Wherefore I pray and beseech you,
as many as are here present, to accompany
me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying
after me:

All **Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices
and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we
ought to have done; and we have done
those things which we ought not to have
done; and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O
God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto
mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his
sake, that we may hereafter live a godly,
righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy
holy name. Amen.**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner,
but rather that he may turn from his
wickedness and live; and hath given power,
and commandment, to his ministers
to declare and pronounce to his people, being
penitent, the absolution and remission of their
sins: he pardoneth and absolveth all them that
truly repent and unfeignedly believe his holy
gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant
us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit,
that those things may please him which we do
at this present; and that the rest of our life
hereafter may be pure and holy; so that at the
last we may come to his eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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.**

O Lord, open thou our lips
All **and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**
O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen.**
Praise ye the Lord.
All **The Lord's name be praised.**

Psalm 95 *Venite, exultemus*

1. O COME, let us sing unto the Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
2. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving: and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.
3. For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all gods.
4. In his hand are all the corners of the earth: and the strength of the hills is his also.
5. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.
6. O come, let us worship and fall down: and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
7. For he is the Lord our God: and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
8. To-day if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts: as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness.
9. When your fathers tempted me: proved me, and saw my works.
10. Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said: It is a people that do err in their hearts, for they have not known my ways;
11. Unto whom I swear in my wrath: that they should not enter into my rest.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Old Testament Reading 2Kings 6.8-23

⁸ Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.⁹ And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.¹⁰ And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told him and warned him of, and saved himself there, not once nor twice.¹¹ Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he

called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?¹² And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.

¹³ And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.¹⁴ Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.¹⁵ And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?¹⁶ And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.

¹⁸ And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed unto the LORD, and said, Smite this people, I pray thee, with blindness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of Elisha.¹⁹ And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek. But he led them to Samaria.²⁰ And it came to pass, when they were come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw; and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria.

²¹ And the king of Israel said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them? shall I smite them?²² And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them: wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink, and go to their master.²³ And he prepared great provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. So the bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel

Magnificat

- 1 My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

- 2 For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
- 3 For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
- 6 He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination
of their hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his
servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham
and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be : world without end. Amen.

New Testament Reading Acts 17 15-end

¹⁵ And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens: and receiving a commandment unto Silas and Timotheus for to come to him with all speed, they departed.¹⁶ Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.¹⁷ Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews, and with the devout persons, and in the market daily with them that met with him.¹⁸ Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.¹⁹ And they took him, and brought him unto Areopagus, saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest,²⁰ For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean²¹ (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

²² Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.²³ For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.²⁴ God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;²⁵ Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to

all life, and breath, and all things;²⁶ And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;²⁷ That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us.

²⁸ For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.²⁹ Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.³⁰ And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent:³¹ Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

³² And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter.³³ So Paul departed from among them.³⁴ Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysius the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them.

Nunc dimittis

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in
peace :
according to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;
- 3 Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;
- 4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be :
world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

***All I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,***

was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,**

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done,

in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation;

but deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

All **And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen.

All **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

All **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

All **And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All **Because there is none other that fighteth for us,**

but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

All **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

The Collect of the Day

O God,

who declarest thy almighty power

most chiefly in showing mercy and pity:
mercifully grant unto us such a measure of
thy grace
that we, running the way of thy
commandments,
may obtain thy gracious promises
and be made partakers of thy heavenly
treasure;
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good
counsels,

and all just works do proceed;

give unto thy servants that peace which the
world cannot give;

that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy
commandments,

and also that, by thee,

we being defended from the fear of our
enemies

may pass our time in rest and quietness;

through the merits of Jesus Christ our
Saviour.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O
Lord;

and by thy great mercy defend us

from all perils and dangers of this night;

for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour,

Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Homily

Prayers

The Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,

and the love of God,

and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,

be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**