

Evening Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer

The Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity

¶ *Welcome*

*1 My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh and die?*

*2 He came from his blest throne,
salvation to bestow;
but men cared not, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But oh, my Friend, my Friend indeed,
who at my need his life did spend!*

*3 Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing;
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath,
and for his death they thirst and cry.*

*4 Why, what hath my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these
themselves displease and 'gainst him rise.*

*5 They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord sent away;
a murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet willing he to suffering goes,
that he his foes from thence might free.*

*6 In life, no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death, no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home,
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.*

*7 Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.*

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.**

A priest says

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.**

¶ Evening Prayer

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 139.1-18

1. O LORD, thou hast searched me out and known me: thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising, thou understandest my thoughts long before.
2. **Thou art about my path, and about my bed: and spiest out all my ways.**
3. For lo, there is not a word in my tongue: but thou, O Lord, knowest it altogether.
4. **Thou hast fashioned me behind and before: and laid thine hand upon me.**
5. Such knowledge is too wonderful and excellent for me: I cannot attain unto it.
6. **Whither shall I go then from thy Spirit: or whither shall I go then from thy presence?**
7. If I climb up into heaven, thou art there: if I go down to hell, thou art there also.
8. **If I take the wings of the morning: and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea;**
9. Even there also shall thy hand lead me: and thy right hand shall hold me.
10. **If I say, Peradventure the darkness shall cover me: then shall my night be turned to day.**
11. Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day: the darkness and light to thee are both alike.
12. **For my reins are thine: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.**
13. I will give thanks unto thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works, and that my soul knoweth right well.
14. **My bones are not hid from thee: though I be made secretly, and fashioned beneath in the earth.**
15. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect: and in thy book were all my members written;

**16. Which day by day were fashioned:
when as yet there was none of them.**

17. How dear are thy counsels unto me, O
God: O how great is the sum of them!

**18. If I tell them, they are more in number
than the sand: when I wake up I am
present with thee.**

**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 Proverbs 3 1-18

1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:² For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.³ Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:⁴ So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.⁵ Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.⁶ In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.⁷ Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.⁸ It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.⁹ Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:¹⁰ So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.¹¹ My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:¹² For whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.¹³ Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.¹⁴ For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold.¹⁵ She is more precious than rubies: and all the things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her.¹⁶ Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.¹⁷ Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. ¹⁸ She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her: and happy is every one that retaineth her.

Here endeth the first reading.

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.**
Luke 1.46-55

**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 1John 3.1-15

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.³ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.⁴ Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.⁵ And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.⁶ Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him.⁷ Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.⁸ He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.⁹ Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.¹⁰ In this the children of God are

manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.¹¹ For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.¹² Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.¹³ Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.¹⁴ We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.¹⁵ Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

Here endeth the 2nd lesson

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.**
Luke 2.29-32

**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

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

*God that madest earth and heaven,
darkness and light;
who the day for toil hast given,
for rest the night,
may thine angel-guards defend us,
slumber sweet thy mercy sent us,
holy dreams and hopes attend us,
this livelong night.*

*Guard us waking,
guard us sleeping,
and, when we die,
may we in thy mighty keeping
all peaceful lie;
when the last dread call shall wake us,
do not thou or God forsake us,
but to reign in glory take us
with thee on high.*

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.**