

**Evening Prayer from The Book of Common
Prayer
The Second Sunday after Christmas**

The grace of God has appeared,
bringing salvation to all. *Titus 2.11*

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his
name; make known his deeds among
the nations; proclaim that his name is
exalted. *Isaiah 61.1,2.*

¶ *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.**

Hymn

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind
made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a
stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow
on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him,
nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when
He comes to reign.

In the bleak midwinter a stable place
sufficed

The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have
gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the
air;

But His mother only, in her maiden
bliss,

Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a
lamb;

If I were a Wise Man, I would do my
part;

Yet what I can I give Him: give my
heart.

Psalm 135 1-14

1. O PRAISE the Lord, laud ye the Name
of the Lord: praise it, O ye servants of
the Lord;

**2. Ye that stand in the house of
the Lord: in the courts of the
house of our God.**

3. O praise the Lord, for the Lord is
gracious: O sing praises unto his
Name, for it is lovely.

**4. For why? the Lord hath chosen
Jacob unto himself: and Israel
for his own possession.**

5. For I know that the Lord is great:
and that our Lord is above all gods.

**6. Whatsoever the Lord pleased,
that did he in heaven and in
earth: and in the sea, and in all
deep places.**

7. He bringeth forth the clouds from
the ends of the world: and sendeth
forth lightnings with the rain, bringing
the winds out of his treasures.

**8. He smote the first-born of
Egypt: both of man and beast.**

11. He hath sent tokens and wonders into the midst of thee, O thou land of Egypt: upon Pharaoh, and all his servants.

10. He smote divers nations: and slew mighty kings;

11. Sehon king of the Amorites, and Og the king of Basan: and all the kingdoms of Canaan;

12. And gave their land to be an heritage: even an heritage unto Israel his people.

13. Thy Name, O Lord, endureth for ever: so doth thy memorial, O Lord, from one generation to another.

14. For the Lord will avenge his people: and be gracious unto his servants.

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**

Reading

Ephesians 1. 31-14

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ: 4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: 5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. 7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; 8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 10 That in

the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: 12 That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. 13 In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, 14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

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.**

Reading
Romans 12.1-8

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. 3 For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: 5 So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

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**

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 for the Second Sunday after Christmas

ALMIGHTY God, who hast poured
upon us the new light of thine
incarnate Word; Grant that the same
light enkindled in our hearts may shine

forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

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

Hymn

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way,
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
alleluias to our King.

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.
Amen.**