

## Evening Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer

The first EP of the Conversion of St Paul

<sup>9</sup> Thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places.

<sup>10</sup> They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

### Amazing grace!

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now am found  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me  
his word my hope secures  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

When we've been there a thousand years  
bright shining as the sun  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

Dearly beloved

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 149**

<sup>1</sup>**Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints.**

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel rejoice in him that made him: let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

<sup>3</sup>**Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp.**

<sup>4</sup>For the LORD taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation.

<sup>5</sup>**Let the saints be joyful in glory: let them sing aloud upon their beds.**

<sup>6</sup>Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand;

**7To execute vengeance upon the heathen, and punishments upon the people;**

**8To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;**

**9To execute upon them the judgment written: this honour have all his saints. Praise ye the LORD.**

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 Lesson**

The Old Testament lesson is from the 49<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the book of the Prophet Isaiah beginning at the first verse

<sup>1</sup>Listen, O isles, unto me; and hearken, ye people, from far;

The LORD hath called me from the womb; from the bowels of my mother hath he made mention of my name.

<sup>2</sup>And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me;

<sup>3</sup>And said unto me, Thou art my servant, O Israel, in whom I will be glorified.

<sup>4</sup>Then I said, I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nought, and in vain: yet surely my judgment is with the LORD, and my work with my God.

<sup>5</sup>And now, saith the LORD that formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob again to him, Though Israel be not gathered, yet shall I be glorious in the eyes of the LORD, and my God shall be my

strength.

<sup>6</sup>And he said, It is a light thing that thou shouldest be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved of Israel: I will also give thee for a light to the Gentiles, that thou mayest be my salvation unto the end of the earth.

<sup>7</sup>Thus saith the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel, and his Holy One, to him whom man despiseth, to him whom the nation abhorreth, to a servant of rulers, Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of the LORD that is faithful, and the Holy One of Israel, and he shall choose thee.

<sup>8</sup>Thus saith the LORD, In an acceptable time have I heard thee, and in a day of salvation have I helped thee: and I will preserve thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, to establish the earth, to cause to inherit the desolate heritages;

<sup>9</sup>That thou mayest say to the prisoners, Go forth; to them that are in darkness, Shew yourselves. They shall feed in the ways, and their pastures shall be in all high places.

<sup>10</sup>They shall not hunger nor thirst; neither shall the heat nor sun smite them: for he that hath mercy on them shall lead them, even by the springs of water shall he guide them.

<sup>11</sup>And I will make all my mountains a way, and my highways shall be exalted.

<sup>12</sup>Behold, these shall come from far: and, lo, these from the north and from the west; and these from the land of Sinim.

<sup>13</sup>Sing, O heavens; and be joyful, O earth; and break forth into singing, O mountains: for the LORD hath comforted his people, and will have mercy upon his afflicted. First

Here endeth the first lesson

***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.

The New Testament lesson is from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of the book of  
the Acts of the Apostles beginning at the third verse

<sup>3</sup>I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet  
brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to  
the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward

God, as ye all are this day.<sup>4</sup>And I persecuted this way unto the death,  
binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.<sup>5</sup>As also the  
high priest doth bear me witness, and all the estate of the elders: from  
whom also I received letters unto the brethren, and went to  
Damascus, to bring them which were there bound unto Jerusalem, for  
to be punished.<sup>6</sup>And it came to pass, that, as I made my journey, and  
was come nigh unto Damascus about noon, suddenly there shone  
from heaven a great light round about me. <sup>7</sup>And I fell unto the ground,  
and heard a voice saying unto me, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou  
me?<sup>8</sup>And I answered, Who art thou, Lord? And he said unto me, I am  
Jesus of Nazareth, whom thou persecutest. <sup>9</sup>And they that were with  
me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice  
of him that spake to me.<sup>10</sup>And I said, What shall I do, LORD? And the  
Lord said unto me, Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be  
told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do.<sup>11</sup>And when I  
could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them  
that were with me, I came into Damascus.<sup>12</sup>And one Ananias, a devout  
man according to the law, having a good report of all the Jews which  
dwelt there, Came unto me, and stood, and said unto me, Brother  
Saul, receive thy sight. And the same hour I looked up upon him.<sup>14</sup>And  
he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest  
know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of  
his mouth.<sup>15</sup>For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou  
hast seen and heard. <sup>16</sup>And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be  
baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.

Here endeth the second 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.  
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 Creed

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.**

The Lord be with you.  
*All* **And with thy spirit.**

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.**

○ Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
*All* **And grant us thy salvation.**  
○ 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.**  
○ Lord, save thy people.  
*All* **And bless thine inheritance.**  
Give peace in our time, ○ Lord.  
*All* **Because there is none other that fighteth for us,**  
**but only thou, ○ God.**  
○ God, make clean our hearts within us.  
*All* **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

### ***The Collect of the Day***

Almighty God,  
who caused the light of the gospel  
to shine throughout the world  
through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul:  
grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion  
may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;  
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.

### ***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.

### ***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. **Amen.**

### ***Prayers***

### ***Final hymn***

#### **And can it be**

And can it be that I should gain  
an interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies  
who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
to sound the depths of love divine!  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above  
so free, so infinite his grace  
emptied himself of all but love  
and bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,  
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
fast bound in sin and nature's night  
thine eye diffused a quickening ray  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light  
my chains fell off, my heart was free  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread,  
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!  
Alive in him, my living head  
and clothed in righteousness divine.  
Bold I approach the eternal throne  
and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

***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.**