



EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME

Sunday 10th January 2021

The First Sunday after the Epiphany:

The Baptism of our Lord

OPENING RESPONSES:

O Lord, open thou our lips.
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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.

Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM: 46, 47

God is our hope and strength *
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved *
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.
Though the waters thereof rage and swell *
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God *
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed *
God shall help her, and that right early.
The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved *
but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us *
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord *
what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
He maketh wars to cease in all the world *
he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.
Be still then, and know that I am God *
I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.
The Lord of hosts is with us *
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Clap your hands together, all ye people *
O sing unto God with the voice of melody.
For the Lord is high, and to be feared *
he is the great King upon all the earth.
He shall subdue the people under us *
and the nations under our feet.
He shall choose out an heritage for us *
even the worship of Jacob, whom he loved.
God is gone up with a merry noise *
and the Lord with the sound of the trump.
O sing praises, sing praises unto our God *
O sing praises, sing praises unto our King.
For God is the King of all the earth *
sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen *

God sitteth upon his holy seat.

The princes of the people are joined unto the people of the God of Abraham *

for God, which is very high exalted, doth defend the earth, as it were with a shield.

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.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,

my chosen, in whom my soul delights;

I have put my spirit upon him;

he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice,

or make it heard in the street;

a bruised reed he will not break,

and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;

he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed

until he has established justice in the earth;

and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,

who created the heavens and stretched them out,

who spread out the earth and what comes from it,

who gives breath to the people upon it

and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,

I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,

a light to the nations,

to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,

from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the LORD, that is my name;

my glory I give to no other,

nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,

and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth,

I tell you of them.

MAGNIFICAT:

My soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded:

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth:

all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me:

and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him:

throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm:
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
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.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

NUNC DIMITTIS:

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen:
thy salvation.
Which thou hast prepared:
before the face of all people.
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:

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 Spirit, 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 Spirit, 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.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people which call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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. Amen.

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

Epiphany Prayer from the Church of Sri Lanka

O God, our Father, Creator of the universe, whose Son, Jesus Christ, came to our world, pour your Holy Spirit upon your Church, that all the people of our world, being led through the knowledge of your truth to worship you, may offer the gold of intellect, the frankincense of devotion and the myrrh of discipline to him who is with you and the Holy Spirit who liveth and reigneth forever one God, world without end.

Prayer for the universal Church (Ian Bunting)

O Lord Jesus Christ, prince of peace, break down the barriers which separate us from each other and from God. Teach Christians to love each other across the walls of colour, class and creed; forgive us, too, the excuses we make for our own prejudice. And lead us captive in your cause of peace and goodwill on earth; for your name's sake.

Prayer for spiritual stability at the beginning of a new lockdown (Edward Pusey)

Lift up our souls, O Lord, to the pure, serene light of thy presence; that there we may breathe freely, there repose in thy love, there may be at rest from ourselves, and from thence return, arrayed in thy peace, to do and bear what shall please thee; for thy holy name's sake.

Prayer for children, students, teachers and educators

God our Father, we pray for the work of education in this uncertain and troubling time, remembering especially schoolchildren of all ages, students and those in further education of any kind, and those whose task is to teach. Bless all who face important examinations, and the stress of cancellation or disruption to those. Hold them in your love, protect all who are vulnerable and grant that their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing be supported and safeguarded. We ask this in the name of Jesus our Teacher and our Lord.

*Pause for **SILENT REFLECTION***

A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Hymns suitable for use at home:

ICH: 196

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness,
high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
and comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy
prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine;
for truth in its beauty, and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them in trembling and
fearfulness,
he will accept for the Name that is dear;
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!
bow down before him, his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience, and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him: the Lord is his Name!

Words: John S.B. Monsell (1811-75)

Tune: WAS LEBET, WAS SCHWEBET melody from the Rheinhardt MS (Üttingen, 1754)

ICH: 199

The people that in darkness walked
a glorious light have seen;
the light has shined on them who long
in shades of death have been.

To hail thee, Sun of righteousness,
the gathering nations come;
they joy as when the reapers bear
their harvest treasures home.

For unto us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and on his shoulder ever rests
all power in earth and heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
for evermore adored;
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the Everlasting Lord.

His power, increasing, still shall spread,
his reign no end shall know:
justice shall guard his throne above,
and peace abound below.

Words: John Morison (1750-98) based on Isaiah 9: 2-7

Tune: Melody from the CL Psalmes of David (Edinburgh, 1615) Harmony from Thomas Ravenscroft's Psalmes (London, 1621)

Bible passages in this service are from the New Revised Standard Version.

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