



## EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021

The Sixth Sunday of Easter:

Rogation Sunday

### OPENING RESPONSES:

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

○ God, make speed to save us.  
○ 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: 48

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised \*  
in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.  
The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth \*  
upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King; God is well known in her palaces as a sure  
refuge.

For lo, the kings of the earth \*  
are gathered, and gone by together.  
They marvelled to see such things \*  
they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.

Fear came there upon them, and sorrow \*  
as upon a woman in her travail.

Thou shalt break the ships of the sea \*  
through the east-wind.

Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God \*  
God upholdeth the same for ever.

We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God \*  
in the midst of thy temple.

O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end \*  
thy right hand is full of righteousness.

Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughter of Judah be glad \*  
because of thy judgements.

Walk about Sion, and go round about her \*  
and tell the towers thereof.

Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses \*  
that ye may tell them that come after.

For this God is our God for ever and ever \*  
he shall be our guide unto death.

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:** Song of Solomon 4:16-5:2; 8:6-7

Awake, O north wind,  
and come, O south wind!  
Blow upon my garden  
that its fragrance may be wafted abroad.  
Let my beloved come to his garden,  
and eat its choicest fruits.

I come to my garden, my sister, my bride;  
I gather my myrrh with my spice,  
I eat my honeycomb with my honey,  
I drink my wine with my milk.

Eat, friends, drink,  
and be drunk with love.

I slept, but my heart was awake.  
Listen! my beloved is knocking.  
'Open to me, my sister, my love,  
my dove, my perfect one;  
for my head is wet with dew,  
my locks with the drops of the night.'  
Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.  
Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.  
If one offered for love  
all the wealth of one's house,  
it would be utterly scorned.

**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: Revelation 3:14-22**

'And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation:

'I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. For you say, "I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing." You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. Therefore I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich; and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen; and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. I reprove and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.'

**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, from whom all good things do come; grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration we may think those things that be good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. 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.

#### **PRAYER**

*God's love and mercy in Christ*

You keep us waiting. You, the God of all time; want us to wait for the right time in which to discover who we are, where we must go, who will be with us, and what we must do. *So, thank you for the waiting time.*

You keep us looking. You, the God of all space, want us to look in the right and wrong places for signs of hope, for people who are hopeless, for visions of a better world which will appear among the disappointments of the world we know. *So, thank you for the looking time.*

You keep us loving. You, the God whose name is love, want us to be like you— to love the loveless and the unlovely and the unlovable; to love without jealousy or design or threat; and, most difficult of all, to love ourselves. *So, thank you for the loving time.*

And in all this, you keep us. Through the hard questions with no easy answers; through failing where we hoped to succeed and making an impact when we felt we were useless; through the patience and the dreams and the love of others; and through Jesus Christ and his Spirit, you keep us. *So, thank you for the keeping time. And for now, and for ever.*

*John Bell (Iona Community)*

*Prayers marking the Centenary of the opening of the Northern Ireland Parliament in May 1921*

Heavenly Father and Sovereign God, whose love of justice and mercy is from everlasting. We pray for the members of our legislative assembly and its executive. May they govern with wisdom and compassion, serve with integrity and seek the common good that all the people of Northern Ireland may live in peace and prosperity, this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, as we mark the centenary of the opening of the Northern Ireland Parliament, grant to us a true sense of what it is to be your people in the world. We ask you to so guard and guide all who reflect on the past, all who lead us in the present, and all who shape our future, that we may model our society on the image of Christ and to his glory, in whom we trust and through whom we pray. **Amen.**

*A time of **FREE PRAYER** in which to remember others and commend the coming week to God*

*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 281

Rejoice, the Lord is King!  
Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore:

Jesus the Saviour reigns,  
the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains,  
he took his seat above:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;  
Rejoice! Again I say: Rejoice!*

His kingdom cannot fail,  
he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus given:

He sits at God's right hand  
till all his foes submit,  
and bow to his command,  
and fall beneath his feet:

Rejoice in glorious hope;  
Jesus the Judge shall come,  
and take his servants up  
to their eternal home.

*We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;  
the trump of God shall sound: Rejoice!*

*Words: Charles Wesley (1707-88) based on Philippians 4:4  
Tune: GOPSAL G. F. Handel (1685-1759)*

### ICH 260

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love drowned in death, shall never die.

In every insult, rift and war,  
where colour, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.

Women and men, in age and youth,  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life, the truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

*Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936)  
Tune: TRURO Melody from Thomas Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica (1789)*