

Morning Prayer for Advent Sunday

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Reveal among us the light of your presence

All that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In your tender compassion



the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.

As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Opening Canticle: A Song of the King's Glory

- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, 
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
- 2 For he has founded it upon the seas 
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

- 3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, ♦
or who can rise up in his holy place?'
- 4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, ♦
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,
nor sworn an oath to a lie;
- 5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, ♦
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'
- 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, ♦
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.
- 7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8 'Who is the King of glory?' ♦
'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'
- 9 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10 'Who is this King of glory?' ♦
'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.'

Psalm 24

**All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody: Psalm 25

Refrain: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

All: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

- 1 We have heard with our ears, O God, our forebears have told us, ◆
all that you did in their days, in time of old;
- 2 How with your hand you drove out nations and planted us in, ◆
and broke the power of peoples and set us free.
- 3 For not by their own sword did our ancestors take the land ◆
nor did their own arm save them,
- 4 But your right hand, your arm, and the light of your countenance, ◆
because you were gracious to them.

All: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

- 5 You are my King and my God, ◆
who commanded salvation for Jacob.
- 6 Through you we drove back our adversaries; ◆
through your name we trod down our foes.
- 7 For I did not trust in my bow; ◆
it was not my own sword that saved me;

8 It was you that saved us from our enemies ♦
and put our adversaries to shame.

9 We gloried in God all the day long, ♦
and were ever praising your name.

All: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

16 My confusion is daily before me, ♦
and shame has covered my face,

17 At the taunts of the slanderer and reviler, ♦
at the sight of the enemy and avenger.

18 All this has come upon us,
though we have not forgotten you ♦
and have not played false to your covenant.

22 Will not God search it out? ♦
For he knows the secrets of the heart.

23 But for your sake are we killed all the day long, ♦
and are counted as sheep for the slaughter.

All: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

24 Rise up! Why sleep, O Lord? ♦
Awake, and do not reject us for ever.

25 Why do you hide your face ♦
and forget our grief and oppression?

26 Our soul is bowed down to the dust; ♦
our belly cleaves to the earth.

27 Rise up, O Lord, to help us ♦
and redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love.

All: Rise up, O Lord, to help us.

In the darkness of unknowing, when your love seems absent,
draw near to us, O God, in Christ forsaken, in Christ risen, our
Redeemer and our Lord. **Amen.**

Canticle: A Song of the Wilderness

All Lift up your voice with strength,

O herald of good tidings.

- 1 The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, ♦
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.
- 2 They shall see the glory of the Lord, ♦
the majesty of our God.
- 3 Strengthen the weary hands, ♦
and make firm the feeble knees.
- 4 Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not,
your God is coming with judgement, ♦
coming with judgement to save you.'
- 5 Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, ♦
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- 6 Then shall the lame leap like a hart, ♦
and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy.
- 7 For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, ♦
and streams in the desert;
- 8 The ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, ♦
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
- 9 Joy and gladness shall be theirs, ♦
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35.1,2b-4a,4c-6,10

All Glory to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning is now

and shall be for ever. Amen.

All Lift up your voice with strength,

O herald of good tidings.

Scripture Reading and Reflection/Meditation

Isaiah 2.1-5

Luke 12.35-48

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,

All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,

All for the night is far spent.

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness

and put on the armour of light,

All for the day is at hand.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ

and make no provision for the flesh,




All for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

from Romans 13

Gospel Canticle: Benedictus

Refrain:

**All Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the glory that is coming from God.**

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, 
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, 
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old 
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ◆
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ◆
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, ◆
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ◆
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ◆
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God ◆
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ◆
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son**
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

All **Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,**
and see the glory that is coming from God.

Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Silence may be kept.

The Collect of the day or the following is said

Almighty God,

give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light,

now in the time of this mortal life,

in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day,

when he shall come again in his glorious majesty

to judge the living and the dead,

we may rise to the life immortal;

through him who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

The Conclusion

May the Lord, when he comes,

find us watching and waiting.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.