

EVENING PRAYER

THURSDAY, 18TH MARCH 2021
THE EVE OF ST JOSEPH OF NAZARETH



following the Annual General Meeting of the
Gloucester, Hereford and Worcester Branch

¶ *Acknowledging the limitations of Zoom for communal speaking, please **mute** your microphones throughout this service. Only one vergers will audibly lead the congregational responses, but please do all join in at home.*

¶ *The service opens with a Sentence from the Psalm.*

Chaplain We will go unto his tabernacle: and fall low on our knees before
his footstool. *Psalm 132 v7*

¶ *The branch chaplain introduces the service.*

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

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

Chaplain 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.**

Chaplain Praise ye the Lord.
All **The Lord's Name be praised.**

¶ *The chaplain says the odd-numbered verses and the people say the even-numbered verses. A pause is made at the colon (:) in the middle of each verse.*

- 1 Lord, remember David :
and all his trouble;
- 2 **How he sware unto the Lord :**
and vowed a vow unto the Almighty God of Jacob;
- 3 I will not come within the tabernacle of mine house :
nor climb up into my bed;
- 4 **I will not suffer mine eyes to sleep, nor mine eye-lids to**
slumber :
neither the temples of my head to take any rest;
- 5 Until I find out a place for the temple of the Lord :
an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.
- 6 **Lo, we heard of the same at Ephrata :**
and found it in the wood.
- 7 We will go into his tabernacle :
and fall low on our knees before his footstool.
- 8 **Arise, O Lord, into thy resting-place :**
thou, and the ark of thy strength.
- 9 Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness :
and let thy saints sing with joyfulness.
- 10 **For thy servant David's sake :**
turn not away the presence of thine Anointed.
- 11 The Lord hath made a faithful oath unto David :
and he shall not shrink from it;
- 12 **Of the fruit of thy body :**
shall I set upon thy seat.
- 13 If thy children will keep my covenant, and my testimonies that
I shall learn them :
their children also shall sit upon thy seat for evermore.
- 14 **For the Lord hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for himself :**
he hath longed for her.
- 15 This shall be my rest for ever :
here will I dwell, for I have a delight therein.
- 16 **I will bless her victuals with increase :**
and will satisfy her poor with bread.
- 17 I will deck her priests with health :
and her saints shall rejoice and sing.

- 18 **There shall I make the horn of David to flourish :
 I have ordained a lantern for mine Anointed.**
- 19 As for his enemies, I shall clothe them with shame :
 but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

Chaplain 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.**

First Lesson

Hosea 11.1–9

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
 and out of Egypt I called my son.
The more I called them,
 the more they went from me;
they kept sacrificing to the Baals,
 and offering incense to idols.

Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
 I took them up in my arms;
 but they did not know that I healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness,
 with bands of love.
I was to them like those
 who lift infants to their cheeks.
I bent down to them and fed them.

They shall return to the land of Egypt,
 and Assyria shall be their king,
 because they have refused to return to me.
The sword rages in their cities,
 it consumes their oracle-priests,
 and devours because of their schemes.
My people are bent on turning away from me.
 To the Most High they call,
 but he does not raise them up at all.

How can I give you up, Ephraim?
 How can I hand you over, O Israel?

How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart recoils within me;
my compassion grows warm and tender.
I will not execute my fierce anger;
I will not again destroy Ephraim;
for I am God and no mortal,
the Holy One in your midst,
and I will not come in wrath.

Magnificat

¶ *The chaplain and people again say alternate verses. A shorter pause is made at the colon (:) in the middle of each verse.*

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.

Chaplain 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.

Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

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.**

Chaplain 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.**

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 Catholick Church;
The Communion of Saints;
The Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers

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

Chaplain Let us pray.

Chaplain Lord, have mercy upon us.
All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Chaplain 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.**

Chaplain O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
All **And grant us thy salvation.**

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

Chaplain Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
All **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Chaplain O Lord, save thy people.
Choir **And bless thine inheritance.**

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

Chaplain O God, make clean our hearts within us.
All **And take not thy holy Spirit from us.**

¶ *The Collect of the Feast of St Joseph of Nazareth.*

Chaplain O God our Father, who from the house of thy servant David didst raise up Joseph the carpenter to be the guardian of thine incarnate Son and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary: give us grace to follow him in faithful obedience to thy commands; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord.
All **Amen.**

¶ *The Collect of Lent.*

Chaplain Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

¶ *The Collect for Peace.*

Chaplain 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.*

Chaplain 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.**

¶ *A Prayer in the time of any Common Plague or Sickness.*
(from the Irish Book of Common Prayer, 1926)

Chaplain O Almighty God the Lord of life and death, of health and sickness; Have pity upon us miserable sinners, now visited with great sickness and mortality. Withdraw from us this grievous affliction. Sanctify to us, we beseech thee, this thy fatherly correction. Enlarge our charity to relieve those who need our help. Bless the remedies applied to assist them. Give us prudence to see, and vigour to use, those means which thy providence affords, for preventing and alleviating such calamities. And, above all, teach us to know how frail and uncertain our condition is, and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and heavenly wisdom, whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting; through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thine only Son our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ *A Prayer for the Queen's Majesty.*

Chaplain O Lord, our heavenly Father, the high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth; Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth; and so replenish her with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that she may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Endue her plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant her in health and wealth long to live; strengthen her that she may vanquish and overcome all her enemies; and finally, after this life, she may attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ *All join in saying the Vergers' Prayer.*

All **Almighty Father,
from whom every family in heaven and earth is named,
who has called us into fellowship of your Church;
grant, we pray, that in all our churches we may fulfil the duties
and enjoy the privileges of our spiritual home.
And on those who offer themselves for service as vergers in the
House of God bestow the fullness of your grace;
that, united in love to you and to one another,
we may show forth your glory
and hasten the coming of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

¶ *In memoriam for departed members of the Guild.*

Chaplain Almighty Father, God of the spirits of all flesh, thyself unchanged abiding: We bless thy holy name for all who have completed their earthly course in thy faith and fear, and are now at rest. We remember before thee this day thy servant Peter Young and all former members of this Guild, rendering thanks to thee for the gift of their friendship, and for their life of service and devotion. And we beseech thee in thy loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them as in us, all the good purpose of thy holy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

¶ *The service concludes with the Grace.*

All **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.**

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