

Sunday 13 December 2020

Morning Prayer (Lauds)

Introduction (without Invitatory)

If this is the first Hour that you are reciting today, use the version with the Invitatory Psalm instead.

O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn

Hark! a herald voice is calling

Through the shadows of the night

‘Cast away the dreams of darkness

Christ descends with heavenly light.’

Wakened by the solemn warning,

Let the earthbound soul arise;

Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,

Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,

Comes with pardon down from heav’n;

Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,

One and all to be forgiv’n;

So, when next he comes with glory,

And his judgement-day draws near,

Faithful he may find his servants,

Watching till their Lord appear.

Honour, glory, might, and blessing

To the Father and the Son,

With the everlasting Spirit,

While eternal ages run.

Psalm 92 (93)
The magnificence of the
Creator

“The Lord, our God, the Almighty is king: let us be glad and rejoice and give him praise” (Rev 19:6,7).

The Lord will come without delay. He will bring to light what darkness hides and he will reveal himself to all the nations. Alleluia.

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;
the Lord has robed himself with might,
he has girded himself with power.

The world you made firm, not to be moved;
your throne has stood firm from of old.
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.

The waters have lifted up, O Lord,
the waters have lifted up their voice,
the waters have lifted up their thunder.

Greater than the roar of mighty waters
more glorious than the surgings of the sea,
the Lord is glorious on high.

Truly your decrees are to be trusted.
Holiness is fitting to your house,
O Lord, until the end of time.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

The Lord will come without delay. He will bring to light what darkness hides and he will reveal himself to all the nations. Alleluia.

Psalm-prayer

All power and all authority in heaven and on earth have been given to you, Lord Jesus; you rule with decrees that are firm and trustworthy. Be with us always so that we may make disciples whose holiness will be worthy of your house.

Or:

Lord Jesus, king of glory, when you rose from death in the power of the Spirit, you firmly established your kingdom not to be shaken or destroyed by death. May your will be done on earth as in heaven until the Church is made holy by your embrace.

Canticle

Daniel 3:57-88,56

All creatures, bless the
Lord

“Praise our God, all you his servants” (Rev 19:5).

Every mountain and hill shall be laid low, the rugged places shall be made smooth and the mountain-ranges become a plain. Come, Lord, and do not delay. Alleluia.

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord.

To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.
 And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord.
 And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.
 And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord.
 And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.
 And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord.
 And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.
 And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.
 And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.
 And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 O let the earth bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord.
 And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.
 And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.
 And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.
 And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.
 And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, children of men, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.
 And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord.
 And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.
 Ananias, Azarias, Mizael, O bless the Lord.
 To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit:
 To you be highest glory and praise for ever.
 May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens:
 To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

Every mountain and hill shall be laid low, the rugged places shall be made smooth and the mountain-ranges become a plain. Come, Lord, and do not delay. Alleluia.

Psalm 148
An anthem to the Lord,
the Creator

“To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever” (Rev 5:13).

I will give salvation to Sion, I will bring my glory to Jerusalem. Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens,
 praise him in the heights.
 Praise him, all his angels,
 praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon,
 praise him, shining stars.
 Praise him, highest heavens
 and the waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord.
 He commanded: they were made.
 He fixed them for ever,
 gave a law which shall not pass away.

Praise the Lord from the earth,
 sea creatures and all oceans,
 fire and hail, snow and mist,
 stormy winds that obey his word;

all mountains and hills,
 all fruit trees and cedars,
 beasts, wild and tame,
 reptiles and birds on the wing;

all earth's kings and peoples,
 earth's princes and rulers,
 young men and maidens,
 old men together with children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord
 for he alone is exalted.
 The splendour of his name
 reaches beyond heaven and earth.

He exalts the strength of his people.
 He is the praise of all his saints,
 of the sons of Israel,
 of the people to whom he comes close.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.

*I will give salvation to Sion, I will bring my glory to
Jerusalem. Alleluia.*

Psalm-prayer

Lord, extolled in the heights by angelic powers, you are also praised by all earth's creatures, each in its own way. With all the splendour of heavenly worship, you still delight in such tokens of love as earth can offer. May heaven and earth together acclaim you as King; may the praise that is sung in heaven resound in the heart of every creature on earth.

Or:

God most high, by your Word you created a wondrous universe, and through your Spirit you breathed into it the breath of life. Accept creation's hymn of praise from our lips; may it raise your people above both heaven and earth.

Short Reading

Romans 13:11-12

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light.

Short Responsory

Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.
– *Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.*
You are coming into the world.
– *Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.*
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
– *Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us.*

Canticle

**The Messiah and the one
who was sent before him**

Benedictus

*John said, 'I am a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.' (Year B)*
*Or: John, who was in prison, heard what Christ was
doing. He sent two of his disciples to ask him,
'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to
expect another?'*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour
in the house of David his servant,
as he promised by the lips of holy men,
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,
from the hands of all who hate us.
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of
our foes,
we might serve him in holiness and justice
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most
High.

You shall go ahead of the Lord
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation
through forgiveness of all their sins,
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,
those who dwell in the shadow of death,
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.

Amen.

*John said, 'I am a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord.' (Year B)*
*Or: John, who was in prison, heard what Christ was
doing. He sent two of his disciples to ask him,
'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to
expect another?'*

Prayers and intercessions

Father, you have given us the grace of looking
forward to the coming of your Son:
– *Send us your loving kindness.*

Bring us to life, Lord:
may we be the servants found watching when
the Master returns.

– *Send us your loving kindness.*

Send your Son to those who wait in hope:
let no man search for you in vain.

– *Send us your loving kindness.*

Bless us as we work:
give us faith until the end, when your Son will
come in glory.

– *Send us your loving kindness.*

Father, we praise you for the presence of the Spirit in
our lives,
making men and women bearers of your
message and your purpose.

– *Send us your loving kindness.*

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Grant, almighty God,
that looking forward in faith to the feast of our
Lord's birth,
we may feel all the happiness our Saviour brings
and celebrate his coming with unfailing joy.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
(one) God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring
us to everlasting life.

Amen.