

The Order for Evening Prayer

THE ORDER FOR EVENING PRAYER

INTRODUCTION

STAND

The Minister reads one or more of these sentences of Scripture: Lord, I love the habitation of thy house, and the place where thy glory dwells. (Psalm 26.8)

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt thou not despise. (Psalm 51.17)

Worship the Lord in raiment of holiness, let the whole earth stand in awe of him. (Psalm 96.9)

Enter not into judgment with thy servant; for in thy sight shall no man living be justified. (Psalm 143.2)

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts. (Let him return to the Lord and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.) (Isaiah 55.6,7)

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him, and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by following his laws which he set before us. (*Daniel* 9.9,10)

I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son." (*Luke* 15.18,19)

God is Spirit, and those Who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. (*John* 4.24)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (*Romans* 1.7)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (*I John* 1.8,9)

EVENING PRAYER

Beloved in Christ, we are here in the presence of the living God and of the whole company of heaven, to offer to him, through our Lord Jesus Christ, our worship and praise and thanksgiving; that we may know more truly the greatness of his love, and that his grace may bear fruit in our lives. We have come to hear and receive God's holy Word, to seek the strengthening power of the Holy Spirit, and to pray for ourselves and all mankind that we may be given those things which are necessary for our true well-being. But first let us confess our sins, and seek our Father's pardon and peace:

KNEEL

**We confess to God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.**

**Almighty God have mercy upon us,
forgive us all our sins and deliver us from evil,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

The Minister (if a Priest) says:

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

This Introduction may be omitted and the service may begin with The Office.

EVENING PRAYER

THE OFFICE

STAND

O Lord, open thou our lips;
And our mouth shall show 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 Spirit;
**As it was in the beginning, is now, am ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's Name be praised.

The Psalm or Psalms appointed. At the end of every Psalm, all say or sing:

**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. / A-/men.**

SIT

The first lesson is read from the Old Testament or the Apocrypha.

STAND

MAGNIFICAT (*Luke 1.46*)

- 1 My soul doth / magnify - the / Lord: and my spirit hath re-/joiced in / God
my / Saviour.**
- 2 For he / hath re-/garded: the / lowll-ness / of his / handmaiden.**
- 3 For be-/hold, from / henceforth: all gener-/ations - shall call me /
blessed.**
- 4 For he that is mighty hath / magni -fied me: and / holy / Is his / name.**
- 5 And his mercy is on I them that / fear him: through-/out all /
gener-/ations,**
- 6 He hath showed / strength - with his / arm: be hath scattered the proud *
in the imagin-/ation / of their / hearts.**

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- 7 He hath put down the mighty / from their / seat: and hath ex-/alted - the / humble - and / meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with / good / things: and the rich he hath / sent / empty - a-/way.
- 9 He re-/membering - his / mercy: hath / helped his / servant / Israel;
- 10 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 / Spirit;
- As it was in the beginning, * is now, and ever / shall be: world without / end. / A-/men.

SIT

The second lesson is read from the New Testament.

STAND

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Luke 2.29*)

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de-/part in I peace: ac-/cording / to thy word.
- 2 For mine eyes have seen - thy sal-/vation: which thou hast Prepared before the / face of / all / peoples.
- 3 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 / Spirit;
- As it was in the beginning, * is now, and ever / shall be: world without / end. / A-/men.

EVENING PRAYER

THE APOSTLES' CREED

STAND

**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 is seated at 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.**

KNEEL

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

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

EVENING PRAYER

**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. Amen.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

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

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

O Lord, save the *Queen*;
And give her counsellors wisdom.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
And evermore mightily defend us.

Make clean our hearts, O God;
And renew a right spirit within us.

The Collect of the day.

The Second Collect, for Peace

Almighty 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 our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and that, being defended by thee from the fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

The Third 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.**

There may follow a hymn or anthem.

The versicles and responses may be omitted when intercessions follow the Collects.

A sermon may be preached after the second lesson, before the intercessions, or at the end of the service.

The service ends with the Grace or one of the alternative endings.

When Evening Prayer is used in place of the Ministry of the Word in the Holy Eucharist, the following sequence is observed. Introduction, and The Office to the second lesson, Sermon, Nicene Creed; Collect of the day, the Intercession, and The Ministry of the Sacrament. (If the second lesson is not from one of the Gospels, it shall be followed by the Gospel of the day).

When Evening Prayer immediately precedes or follows the Holy Eucharist, the Minister may, after the second canticle, end the Office with the second and third Collects.

It is the duty of the clergy, unless they are prevented by sickness or other weighty cause, to say Morning and Evening Prayer daily, Preferably in church after tolling the bell.