

EVENSONG

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Gathering

† In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Priest. O Lord, open thou our lips.

Answer. **And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

Priest. O God, make speed to save us.

Answer. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All stand.

Priest. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer. **As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Priest. Praise ye the Lord.

Answer. **The Lord's Name be praised.**

Then shall be sung the Magnificat (or the Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary).

MAGNIFICAT - Luke 1

Then a Lesson, as appointed.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF KINGS

A hymn is sung

Come, Holy Spirit, our souls inspire,
And lighten with celestial fire;
Thou the anointing Spirit art,
Who dost Thy sev'nfold gifts impart.

Thy blessèd unction from above
Is comfort, life, and fire of love;
Enable with perpetual light
The dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint and cheer our soilèd face
With the abundance of Thy grace;
Keep far our foes, give peace at home;
Where Thou art Guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And Thee, of both, to be but One;
That through the ages all along

This, this may be our endless song.

*Praise to Thy eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

Then a Lesson of the New Testament, as it is appointed.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF REVELATION

*Then shall be sung the Nunc dimittis (or the Song of
Simeon) in English.*

PSALM 97

*Please repeat response after choir, then sing as
indicated*

Response

**All the ends of the earth have seen the
salvation of our God.**

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice:
let the many coastlands be glad!
Clouds and thick darkness are all around him:
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his
throne. **Response.**

Fire goes before him:
and consumes his adversaries on every side.

His lightnings light up the world:
the earth sees and trembles. **Response.**

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord:
before the Lord of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his righteousness:
and all the peoples behold his glory. **Response.**

All worshipers of images are put to shame,
those who make their boast in worthless idols:
all gods bow down before him.

Zion hears and is glad,
and the towns of Judah rejoice:
because of your judgments, O God. **Response.**

For you, O Lord, are most high over all the earth:
you are exalted far above all gods.

The Lord loves those who hate evil; he guards the lives
of his faithful:

he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

Response.

Light dawns for the righteous:
and joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous:

and give thanks to his holy name! **Response.**

Then shall be said or sung the Apostles' Creed, by the Minister and the people standing.

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 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.**

And after that these Prayers following, all devoutly kneeling who are physically able: the Minister first pronouncing with a loud voice,

Minister. The Lord be with you.

Answer. **And with thy spirit.**

Minister. Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Answer. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister, choir and people shall sing the Lord's Prayer with a loud voice.

**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.

Then the Priest standing up shall say,

Priest. O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Answer. **And grant us thy salvation.**

Priest. O Lord, save the King.

Answer. **And mercifully hear us when we call
upon thee.**

Priest. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

Answer. **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

Priest. O Lord, save thy people.

Answer. **And bless thine inheritance.**

Priest. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Answer. **Because there is none other that
fighteth for us, but only thou, O
God.**

Priest. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Answer. **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

*Then shall follow three Collects: The first of the day:
The second for Peace: The third for Aid against all
Perils, as hereafter followeth.*

The First Collect at Evening Prayer

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee,
the spirit to think and do, that we, who cannot do
any thing that is good without thee, may by thee
be enabled to live according to thy will; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect at Evening Prayer

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.

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.**

*In Quires and Places where they sing here followeth the
Anthem. The Anthem this evening is 'Hail Gladdening
light'.*

*Such prayers may follow as the Minister has
ordered.*

Evening Prayers

Let the darkness of night
surround us. Let light and
warmth gather us.
And let God's people say Amen. **Amen.**
Let the tools be stored

Let the winds blow around us,
but let hearts be glad and
minds be calm. And let God's
people say Amen. **Amen.**

LORD, it is night.
The night is for stillness
Let us be still in the
presence of God. It is night
after a long day.
What has been
done has
been done;
what has not been done
has not been done; let it be.

NOW that dusk is near –
with parrots in the gum trees lessening their
chatter, with the distant roar of cars fading
to a mere murmur – may I hear the 'voice of
the One
who walks in the
garden in the cool
of the evening',
and, in hearing
that voice,
find a little of the Eden-
peace which some day
will be perfected.
This I pray in the name of him
who was once mistaken for a gardener.

LORD, be the guest of our homes;
keep far from them the deceits of the evil one.
May your holy angels watch over us as guardians of
our peace. And may your blessing be always upon
us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MOST loving God,
in whom we live and move and have
our being, give us new awareness of
your presence.
Touch our minds, that we may know you in the word
of Scripture and in the living Word, Jesus Christ.
Touch our ears, that we may hear you in music and
song.

Touch our eyes, that we may remember you in the signs of cross and candlelight.

Touch our hearts, that we may love you

with a love that sweeps through us like a great tide. Living, loving Spirit of God,

touch us with the spirit of love, joy, and praise. **Amen.**

Reflection

The Choir Sings

'O Saving Victim'

'Therefore we before him bending'.

A General Thanksgiving

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful: and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer of Saint 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.

NUNC DIMITTIS - Luke 2.29

**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.**

† In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A final hymn is sung.

The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church, unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away:
Thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.