

Friday 23rd April 2021

Giving as Worship

¶ PREPARATION

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Let us lead lives worthy of the Lord

bearing fruit in every good work.

We come before the throne of God

offering ourselves as a living sacrifice.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, gracious and merciful,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

Your Son is the true vine and source of life,
ever giving of himself that the world might live.

You teach us the way of holiness,
to walk as Christ walked,
and to love as Christ loved.

You choose us to be yours in Christ,
and bless us with every spiritual blessing,
and so we praise you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

This opening prayer may be said;

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.

Amen.

¶ THE WORD OF GOD

Psalmody: Psalm 145.9-17

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

- 9 The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his creatures.
- 10 All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.
- 11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your mighty power,
- 12 To make known to all peoples your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.
- 13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.
- 14 The Lord is sure in all his words
and faithful in all his deeds.
- 15 The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up all those who are bowed down.
- 16 The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.
- 17 You open wide your hand
and fill all things living with plenty.

**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.**

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

Canticle: A Song of God's Grace

**The glorious grace of God
is freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.**

- 1 Blessed are you,
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for you have blest us in Christ Jesus
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.
- 2 You chose us to be yours in Christ
before the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy and blameless before you.
- 3 In love you destined us for adoption as your children,
through Jesus Christ,
according to the purpose of your will,
- 4 To the praise of your glorious grace,
which you freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 5 In you, we have redemption
through the blood of Christ,
the forgiveness of our sins,
- 6 According to the riches of your grace,
which you have lavished upon us.
- 7 You have made known to us, in all wisdom and insight,
the mystery of your will,

- 8 According to your purpose
which you set forth in Christ,
as a plan for the fullness of time,
- 9 To unite all things in Christ,
things in heaven and things on earth.

Ephesians 1.3-10

**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 glorious grace of God
is freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.**

Scripture Reading

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12.1-13

Responsory

It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

**Let us live in love, as Christ loved us and gave his life for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

Like living stones, let us be built into a spiritual house,
to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God.

It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave himself for me.

**Let us live in love, as Christ loved us and gave his life for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God.

It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.

**Let us live in love, as Christ loved us and gave his life for us,
a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

from Galatians 2; Ephesians 5; 1 Peter 2

Gospel Canticle

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

- 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

**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.**

**You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of your servant David.**

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
let the whole earth tremble before him.**

¶ PRAYERS

Intercessions are offered, and may conclude;

Holy God,
you have blessed us in Christ
through every spiritual blessing;
through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
that we may reflect your light,
and live and work to your praise and glory.
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Offerings ourselves as a living sacrifice,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

¶ THE CONCLUSION

Lord of all,
as your love compels us,
grant us grace as we offer ourselves to you,
and learn to be Christ in the world,
in whose name we pray.
Amen.

The God of abundance,
who provides us with every spiritual blessing,
bless us and keep us.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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