

Evening Prayer on Sunday, 26 October 2025 (Last after Trinity)

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

HYMN

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalm 119.1-16

ALL: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

- 1 Blessed are those whose way is pure, ♦
who walk in the law of the Lord.
- 2 Blessed are those who keep his testimonies ♦
and seek him with their whole heart,
- 3 Those who do no wickedness, ♦
but walk in his ways.
- 4 You, O Lord, have charged ♦
that we should diligently keep your commandments.
- 5 O that my ways were made so direct ♦
that I might keep your statutes.
- 6 Then should I not be put to shame, ♦
because I have regard for all your commandments.
- 7 I will thank you with an unfeigned heart, ♦
when I have learned your righteous judgements.
- 8 I will keep your statutes; ♦
O forsake me not utterly.
- 9 How shall young people cleanse their way ♦
to keep themselves according to your word?
- 10 With my whole heart have I sought you; ♦
O let me not go astray from your commandments.
- 11 Your words have I hidden within my heart, ♦
that I should not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, O Lord; ♦
O teach me your statutes.

- 13 With my lips have I been telling ♦
of all the judgements of your mouth.
- 14 I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies ♦
than in all manner of riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your commandments ♦
and contemplate your ways.
- 16 My delight shall be in your statutes ♦
and I will not forget your word.

**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.**

ALL: Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes.

Canticle

Let us rejoice and exult and give glory and homage to our God.

- 1 Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, ♦
whose judgements are true and just.
- 2 Praise our God, all you his servants, ♦
all who fear him, both small and great.
- 3 The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns: ♦
let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory.
- 4 For the marriage of the Lamb has come ♦
and his bride has made herself ready.
- 5 Blessed are those who are invited ♦
to the wedding banquet of the Lamb.

**To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb ♦
be blessing and honour and glory and might, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us rejoice and exult and give glory and homage to our God.

Scripture Reading *Ecclesiastes 11, 12*

Send out your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will get it back. Divide your means seven ways, or even eight, for you do not know what disaster may happen on earth. When clouds are full, they empty rain on the earth; whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where the tree falls, there it will lie. Whoever observes the wind will not sow; and whoever regards the clouds will not reap.

Just as you do not know how the breath comes to the bones in the mother's womb, so you do not know the work of God, who makes everything. In the morning sow your seed, and at evening do not let your hands be idle; for you do not know which will prosper, this or that, or whether both alike will be good. Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun. Even those who live for many years should rejoice in them all; yet let them remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity.

Rejoice, young man, while you are young, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Follow the inclination of your heart and the desire of your eyes, but know that for all these things God will bring you into judgement. Banish anxiety from your mind, and put away pain from your body; for youth and the dawn of life are vanity. Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the

days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, 'I have no pleasure in them'; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return with the rain; on the day when the guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through the windows see dimly; when the doors on the street are shut, and the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; when one is afraid of heights, and terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because all must go to their eternal home, and the mourners will go about the streets; before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it. Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher; all is vanity.

Besides being wise, the Teacher also taught the people knowledge, weighing and studying and arranging many proverbs. The Teacher sought to find pleasing words, and he wrote words of truth plainly. The sayings of the wise are like goads, and like nails firmly fixed are the collected sayings that are given by one shepherd. Of anything beyond these, my child, beware. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is a weariness of the flesh. The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for that is the whole duty of everyone. For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every secret thing, whether good or evil.

Gospel Canticle The Magnificat

You have done great things, O God, and holy is your name.

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
 he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
- 2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
 the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.
- 3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
 from generation to generation.
- 4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦
 and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
- 5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
 and lifting up the lowly.
- 6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
 and sent the rich away empty.
- 7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
 to remember his promise of mercy,
- 8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
 to Abraham and his children for ever.

**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 done great things, O God, and holy is your name.

Prayers

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them

that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Conclusion

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.