

Evening Prayer on Sunday 15 February 2026 - The Sunday next before Lent

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 84

Blessed are they who dwell in your house.

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! ♦
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: ♦
at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Blessed are they who dwell in your house: ♦
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Blessed are those whose strength is in you, ♦
in whose heart are the highways to Zion,
- 5 Who going through the barren valley find there a spring, ♦
and the early rains will clothe it with blessing.
- 6 They will go from strength to strength ♦
and appear before God in Zion.
- 7 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; ♦
listen, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God, ♦
and look upon the face of your anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts ♦
is better than a thousand.
- 10 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God ♦
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 11 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory; ♦
no good thing shall the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity.

12 O Lord God of hosts, ♦
blessed are those who put their trust in you.

**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.**

Blessed are they who dwell in your house.

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 Ecclesiasticus 48.1-10

Then Elijah arose, a prophet like fire, and his word burned like a torch. He brought a famine upon them, and by his zeal he made them few in number. By the word of the Lord he shut up the heavens, and also three times brought down fire. How glorious you were, Elijah, in your wondrous deeds! Whose glory is equal to yours? You raised a corpse from death and from Hades, by the word of the Most High. You sent kings down to destruction, and famous men, from their sickbeds. You heard rebuke at Sinai and judgements of vengeance at Horeb. You anointed kings to inflict retribution, and prophets to succeed you. You were taken up by a whirlwind of fire, in a chariot with horses of fire. At the appointed time, it is written, you are destined to calm the wrath of God before it breaks out in fury, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and to restore the tribes of Jacob.

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

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
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 Lord bless us and preserve us from all evil and keep us in everlasting life.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.