

Daily Evening Prayer Rite II

The Eve of the Ascension

- ¶ *The appointed leader says the text in regular roman type.
You are invited to say the text in bold type.*

Page numbers along the right-hand margin refer to the Book of Common Prayer.

Opening Sentence

- ¶ *The Officiant begins the service with one or more sentences of Scripture.*

Christ has entered, not into a sanctuary made with hands, a copy of the true one, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. *Hebrews 9.24*

Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. 116

- ¶ *Silence may be kept.*

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

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Almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,
strengthen us in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Opening Preces

O God, make speed to save us. 117
 O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
 Alleluia.

O gracious Light

O gracious Light, 118
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
 Now as we come to the setting of the sun,
 and our eyes behold the vesper light,
 we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
 O Son of God, O Giver of Life,
 and to be glorified through all the worlds.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

¶ *The person appointed announces and leads the reading of the Psalm[s].*

68.1—20 Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered;*
 let those who hate him flee before him.
Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives it away;*
 as the wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.
 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; *
 let them also be merry and joyful.
Sing to God, sing praises to his Name;
exalt him who rides upon the heavens;*
YAHWEH is his Name, rejoice before him!
 Father of orphans, defender of widows, *
 God in his holy habitation!
God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners into freedom;*
 but the rebels shall live in dry places.
 O God, when you went forth before your people, *
 when you marched through the wilderness,
The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, *
 at the presence of God, the God of Israel.
 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance; *
 you refreshed the land when it was weary.
Your people found their home in it;*
 in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

The Psalm or Psalms Appointed

The Lord gave the word; *
great was the company of women who bore the tidings:
**“Kings with their armies are fleeing away; *
the women at home are dividing the spoils.”**
Though you lingered among the sheepfolds, *
you shall be like a dove whose wings are covered with silver,
whose feathers are like green gold.
**When the Almighty scattered kings, *
it was like snow falling in Zalmon.**
O mighty mountain, O hill of Bashan! *
O rugged mountain, O hill of Bashan!
**Why do you look with envy, O rugged mountain,
at the hill which God chose for his resting place? *
truly, the Lord will dwell there for ever.**
The chariots of God are twenty thousand,
even thousands of thousands; *
the Lord comes in holiness from Sinai.
**You have gone up on high and led captivity captive;
you have received gifts even from your enemies, *
that the Lord God might dwell among them.**
Blessed be the Lord day by day, *
the God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.
**He is our God, the God of our salvation; *
God is the Lord, by whom we escape death.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

First Lesson*· Before the Lesson*

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A Lesson from _____.

· After the Lesson

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.¶ *Silence may be kept.***The Song of Mary**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;*

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for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**From this day all generations will call me blessed:*****the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.****He has mercy on those who fear him*
in every generation.****He has shown the strength of his arm,*
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.****He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,*
and has lifted up the lowly.****He has filled the hungry with good things,*
and the rich he has sent away empty.****He has come to the help of his servant Israel,*
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,****The promise he made to our fathers,*
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 will be for ever. Amen.

Second Lesson*· Before the Lesson:*

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A Lesson from _____.

· After the Lesson:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.¶ *Silence may be kept.***The Song of Simeon**

Lord, you now have set your servant free *

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to go in peace as you have promised;**For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *****whom you have prepared for all the world to see:****A Light to enlighten the nations, *****and the glory of your people Israel.****Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *****as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.****The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.****He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit****and born of the Virgin Mary.****He suffered under Pontius Pilate,****was crucified, died, and was buried.****He descended to the dead.****On the third day he rose again.****He ascended into heaven,****and is seated at the right hand of the Father.****He will come again to judge the living 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.**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us pray.

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The Lord's Prayer

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.
Save us from the time of trial,
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and for ever. Amen.

Suffrages

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
And grant us your salvation.

Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
Let your people sing with joy.

Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
For only in you can we live in safety.

Lord, keep this nation under your care;
And guide us in the way of justice and truth.

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Let your way be known upon earth;
Your saving health among all nations.

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;
And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

Collects

- ¶ *The Officiant then says one or more of the following Collects.
The People respond Amen after each one.*

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I Collect of the Day

Grant, we pray, Almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into heaven,
so we may also in heart and mind there ascend,
and with him continually dwell;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.

II Additional Collects

Most holy God,
the source of all good desires, all right judgements, and all just works:
Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give,
so that our minds may be fixed on the doing of your will,
and that we, being delivered from the fear of all enemies,
may live in peace and quietness;
through the mercies of Christ Jesus our Savior.

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or

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord,
and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

or

O God, the life of all who live,
the light of the faithful,
the strength of those who labor,
and the repose of the dead:
We thank you for the blessings of the day that is past,
and humbly ask for your protection through the coming night.
Bring us in safety to the morning hours;
through him who died and rose again for us,
your Son our Savior Jesus Christ.

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or

Lord Jesus, stay with us,
for evening is at hand and the day is past;
be our companion in the way,
kindle our hearts, and awaken hope,
that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture
and the breaking of bread.
Grant this for the sake of your love.

III Prayer for Mission

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: 124
Let the whole earth also worship you,
all nations obey you,
all tongues confess and bless you,
and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

or

Keep watch, dear Lord,
with those who work, or watch, or weep this night,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.
Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary,
bless the dying, soothe the suffering,
pity the afflicted, shield the joyous;
and all for your love's sake.

or

O God, you manifest in your servants the signs of your presence: 125
Send forth upon us the spirit of love,
that in companionship with one another
your abounding grace may increase among us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Parish Prayers

¶ *The Intercessor then says the following prayers for those on the parish prayer list, inserting names from that list in the appropriate places.*

*The People may add their own petitions, and they respond **Amen** after each prayer.*

I Let us pray for healing and for guidance.

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
our only help in time of need,
we humbly beseech you to comfort and heal
all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit,
especially _____ and those we name at this time.

¶ *You may add your own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

Give them courage and hope in their troubles,
and bring them the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

II Let us pray for the homebound.

Look with mercy, O God our Father,
on all those who are homebound by reason of illness or infirmity,
especially _____ and those we name at this time.

¶ *You may add your own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

Provide for them homes of dignity and peace;
give them understanding helpers,
and the willingness to accept help.
Though their strength be diminished,
increase their faith and their assurance of your love.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

III Let us pray for those who are expecting a child.

Gracious God, visit your children _____ as they await the birth of a child.
Protect them from all that might threaten them and the child;
let your holy angels be with them to preserve them in your peace,
and let your blessing be ever upon them,
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

 Intercessions and Thanksgivings

iv Let us give thanks for the newborn.

O God, you have taught us through your blessed Son
 that whoever receives a little child in the name of Christ receives Christ himself:
 We give you thanks for the blessing you have bestowed upon _____
 in giving them a child.
 Confirm their joy by a lively sense of your presence with them,
 and give them calm strength and patient wisdom
 as they seek to bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure,
 lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable,
 following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

v Let us pray for the departed.

Almighty God, we remember before you today your faithful servants,
 especially _____ and those we name at this time.

¶ *You may add your own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

We pray that, having opened to them the gates of larger life,
 you will receive them more and more into your joyful service,
 that, with all who have faithfully served you in the past,
 they may share in the eternal victory of Jesus Christ our Lord;
 who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.

Free Intercession

I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings at this time,
 either silently or aloud.

¶ *You may add your own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

 Intercessions and Thanksgivings

- ¶ *The Officiant may add one or more of the following prayers.
The People respond Amen after each one.*

Prayers for use in this time of contagion

For the sick

Heavenly Father, giver of life and health:
Comfort and relieve your sick servants,
and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs,
that they may be strengthened in their weakness
and have confidence in your loving care;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For health-care professionals

Sanctify, O Lord, those whom you have called
to the study and practice of the arts of healing,
and to the prevention of disease and pain.
Strengthen them by your life-giving Spirit,
that by their ministries
the health of the community may be promoted
and your creation glorified;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For families and for those who live alone

Almighty God, our heavenly Father:
We commend to your continual care the homes in which your people dwell.
Put far from them, we beseech you,
every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life.
Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness.
Grant that those who live alone may not be lonely in their solitude,
but may find fulfillment in loving you and their neighbors.
Knit together in constant affection
those households which you have called together.
Turn the hearts of the parents to the children,
and the hearts of the children to the parents;
and so enkindle fervent charity among us all,
that we may evermore be kindly affectioned one to another;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For the absent

O God, whose fatherly care reaches to the uttermost parts of the earth:
We humbly beseech you graciously to behold and bless those whom we love,
now absent from us.
Defend them from all dangers of soul and body;
and grant that both they and we, drawing nearer to you,
may be bound together by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit,
and in the fellowship of your saints;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

For the unemployed

Heavenly Father,

we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety
from lack of work.

Guide the people of this land

so to use our public and private wealth

that all may find suitable and fulfilling employment,

and receive just payment for their labor;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A prayer for social justice

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit

may so move every human heart,

and especially the hearts of the people of this land,

that barriers which divide us may crumble,

suspensions disappear, and hatreds cease;

that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable 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 pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

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A Prayer of St Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time
 with one accord to make our common supplication to you;
 and you have promised through your well-beloved Son
 that when two or three are gathered together in his Name
 you will be in the midst of them:
 Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions
 as may be best for us;
 granting us in this world knowledge of your truth,
 and in the age to come life everlasting.
Amen.

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Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

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.