



**An Order for Evening Prayer**

*Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2021*

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**St Nicholas' Church, Brighton**

*The minister shall say*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *1 Peter 1.3*

**B**ELOVED, we are come together in the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make confession of our sins ; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves, that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us keep silence, and remember God's presence with us now.

*Then shall follow the General Confession, to be said of the whole congregation after the Minister:*

**O** GOD, our Father, we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed: we have not loved thee with all our heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. Have mercy upon us, we beseech thee; cleanse us from our sins; and help us to overcome our faults; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Absolution, or Remission of Sins, shall be pronounced by the Minister alone:*

**M**AY the Almighty and merciful Lord grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*The Minister shall say:*

<i>Answer.</i>	O Lord, open thou our lips; <b>And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.</b>
<i>Minister.</i>	O God, make speed to save us;
<i>Answer.</i>	<b>O Lord, make haste to help us.</b>
<i>Minister.</i>	Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost;
<i>Answer.</i>	<b>As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.</b>
<i>Minister.</i>	Praise ye the Lord.
<i>Answer.</i>	<b>The Lord's name be praised.</b>

*Then shall the office hymn be sung.*

**A brighter dawn is breaking,  
and earth with praise is waking;  
for thou, O King most highest,  
the power of death defiest;**

**And thou hast come victorious,  
with risen body glorious,  
who now for ever livest,  
and life abundant givest.**

**O free the world from blindness,  
and fill the world with kindness,  
give sinners resurrection,  
bring striving to perfection.**

**In sickness give us healing,  
in doubt thy clear revealing,  
that praise to thee be given  
in earth as in thy heaven.**

*Percy Dearmer, early 20C*

*Then shall be said the psalm appointed, psalm 96, the people joining in the bold type.*

## **P**SALM 96

O sing unto the Lord a new song \*  
sing unto the Lord, all the whole earth.

**Sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name \*  
be telling of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his honour unto the heathen \*  
and his wonders unto all people.

**For the Lord is great, and cannot worthily be praised \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the heathen, they are but idols \*  
but it is the Lord that made the heavens.

**Glory and worship are before him \***  
**power and honour are in his sanctuary.**

Ascribe unto the Lord, O ye kindreds of the people \*  
ascribe unto the Lord worship and power.

**Ascribe unto the Lord the honour due unto his Name \***  
**bring presents, and come into his courts.**

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness \*  
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

**Tell it out among the heathen that the Lord is King \***  
**and that it is he who hath made the round world so fast that it cannot be moved; and**  
**how that he shall judge the people righteously.**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad \*  
let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is.

**Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it \***  
**then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the Lord.**

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth \*  
and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :**  
**and to the Holy Ghost;**

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :  
world without end. Amen.

*Then shall be read the first lesson, Isaiah 60.1-14*

**A** READING from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the Lord will arise upon you,

and his glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Lift up your eyes round about, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far,  
and your daughters shall be carried in the arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant,  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice;<sup>[a]</sup>  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Mid'ian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.  
All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you,  
the rams of Nebai'oth shall minister to you;  
they shall come up with acceptance on my altar,  
and I will glorify my glorious house.

Who are these that fly like a cloud,  
and like doves to their windows?  
For the coastlands shall wait for me,  
the ships of Tarshish first,  
to bring your sons from far,  
their silver and gold with them,  
for the name of the Lord your God,  
and for the Holy One of Israel,  
because he has glorified you.

Foreigners shall build up your walls,  
and their kings shall minister to you;  
for in my wrath I smote you,  
but in my favor I have had mercy on you.  
Your gates shall be open continually;  
day and night they shall not be shut;  
that men may bring to you the wealth of the nations,  
with their kings led in procession.  
For the nation and kingdom  
that will not serve you shall perish;

those nations shall be utterly laid waste.  
The glory of Lebanon shall come to you,  
the cypress, the plane, and the pine,  
to beautify the place of my sanctuary;  
and I will make the place of my feet glorious.  
The sons of those who oppressed you  
shall come bending low to you;  
and all who despised you  
shall bow down at your feet;  
they shall call you the City of the Lord,  
he Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

Here ends the lesson.

*Then shall be said the Magnificat, the people joining in the bold type.*

#### MAGNIFICAT.

**M**Y soul doth magnify the Lord :  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

**For he hath regarded :  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.**

For behold, from henceforth :  
all generations shall call me blessed.

**For he that is mighty hath magnified me :  
and holy is his name.**

And his mercy is on them that fear him :  
throughout all generations.

**He hath shewed strength with his arm :  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**

He hath put down the mighty from their seat :  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

**He hath filled the hungry with good things :  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.**

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :  
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;**

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

*Then shall be read the second lesson, Revelation 3.1-13*

**A** READING from the book of Revelation

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“I know your works; you have the name of being alive, and you are dead. Awake, and strengthen what remains and is on the point of death, for I have not found your works perfect in the sight of my God. Remember then what you received and heard; keep that, and repent. If you will not awake, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come upon you. Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy. He who conquers shall be clad thus in white garments, and I will not blot his name out of the book of life; I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one shall shut, who shuts and no one opens.

“I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut; I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial which is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell upon the earth. I am coming soon; hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. He who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God; never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

Here ends the lesson.

*Then shall be said the Nunc Dimittis, the people joining in the bold type.*

NUNC DIMITTIS.

**L**ORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :  
according to thy word.

**For mine eyes have seen':  
thy salvation,**

Which thou hast prepared :  
before the face of all people;

**To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :  
and to the Holy Ghost;

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

*Then shall be said the Apostles' Creed by the Minister and the people,*

**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.**

*Then shall be said these Prayers following, the Minister first pronouncing*

The Lord be with you;

*Answer.* **And with thy spirit.**

*Minister.* Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

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

**O**UR Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation But deliver us from evil. **Amen.**

*Then the Minister shall say,*

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;

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

*Minister.* O Lord, save the Queen;

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

*Minister.* Endue thy ministers with righteousness;

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

*Minister.* O Lord, save thy people;

*Answer.* **And bless thine inheritance.**

*Minister.* Give peace in our time, O Lord;

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

*Minister.* 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.*

The Collect of the Day

O almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect for Peace

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 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.**

*Then shall follow the reflection and the intercessions.*

*Then shall follow the hymn.*

**Now is eternal life,  
If risen with Christ we stand,  
In him to life reborn,  
And holden in his hand;  
No more we fear death's ancient dread,  
In Christ arisen from the dead.**

**The human mind so long,  
Brooded o'er life's brief span;  
Was it, O God, for nought,  
For nought, our life began?  
Thou art our hope, our vital breath;  
Shall hope undying end in death?**

**And God, the living God,  
Stooped down to our estate;  
By death destroying death,  
Christ opened wide life's gate.  
He lives, who died; he reigns on high;  
Who lives in him shall never die.**

**Unfathomed love divine,  
Reign thou within my heart;  
From thee nor depth nor height,  
Nor life nor death can part;  
My life is hid in God with thee,  
Now and through all eternity.**

*Then shall follow the blessing.*

THE peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

CCLI: 2215476