

United Benefice of St Stephen's with St James, Blackburn
Midweek Morning Prayer
Wednesday 22nd July 2020
Service led by Revd. Sarah Gill

Today we remember Mary Magdalene

Music to be played at the beginning of the service as part of

preparation: Sing of the Lord's Goodness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGE6ZOumLQM>

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, creator of all,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

As your dawn renews the face of the earth

bringing light and life to all creation,

may we rejoice in this day you have made;

as we wake refreshed from the depths of sleep,

open our eyes to behold your presence

and strengthen our hands to do your will,

that the world may rejoice and give you praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever. *after Lancelot Andrewes (1626)*

The opening prayer

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 appointed for today is psalm 30

Refrain: You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead.

1 I will exalt you, O Lord,

because you have raised me up ♦

and have not let my foes triumph over me.

2 O Lord my God, I cried out to you ♦

and you have healed me.

3 You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead; ♦

you restored me to life from among those that go down to the Pit.

4 Sing to the Lord, you servants of his; ♦

give thanks to his holy name.

5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye,

his favour for a lifetime. ♦

Heaviness may endure for a night,

but joy comes in the morning. [R]

6 In my prosperity I said,

'I shall never be moved. ♦

You, Lord, of your goodness,

have made my hill so strong.'

7 Then you hid your face from me ♦

and I was utterly dismayed.

8 To you, O Lord, I cried; ♦

to the Lord I made my supplication:

9 'What profit is there in my blood,

if I go down to the Pit? ♦

Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

10 'Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me; ♦

O Lord, be my helper.' [R]

11 You have turned my mourning into dancing; ♦

you have put off my sackcloth and girded me with gladness;

12 Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; ♦

O Lord my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

Refrain: You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead.

Lord, you hide your face

when we trust in ourselves;

strip us of false security

*and re-clothe us in your praise,
that we may know you
as the one who raises us from death,
as you raised your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.*

At the end we say:

**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.**

Scripture readings

1 Samuel 16:14-23 David Plays the Lyre for Saul

14 Now the spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him. ¹⁵And Saul's servants said to him, 'See now, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you. ¹⁶Let our lord now command the servants who attend you to look for someone who is skilful in playing the lyre; and when the evil spirit from God is upon you, he will play it, and you will feel better.' ¹⁷So Saul said to his servants, 'Provide for me someone who can play well, and bring him to me.' ¹⁸One of the young men answered, 'I have seen a son of Jesse the Bethlehemite who is skilful in playing, a man of valour, a warrior, prudent in speech, and a man of good presence; and the LORD is with him.' ¹⁹So Saul sent messengers to Jesse, and said, 'Send me your son David who is with the sheep.' ²⁰Jesse took a donkey loaded with bread, a skin of wine, and a kid, and sent them by his son David to Saul. ²¹And David came to Saul, and entered his service. Saul loved him greatly, and he became his armour-bearer. ²²Saul sent to Jesse, saying, 'Let David remain in my service, for he has found favour in my sight.' ²³And whenever the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, David took the lyre and played it with his hand, and Saul would be relieved and feel better, and the evil spirit would depart from him.

Luke 8:1-3 Some Women Accompany Jesus

¹Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, ²as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and

infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their resources.

Reflection

A responsory

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.

**All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

For I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.

All And afterwards receive me with glory.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**All Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.** from Psalm 73

Gospel Canticle -The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

Refrain:

**All After the Sabbath, towards the dawn of the first day of the week,
Mary Magdalene went to the tomb.**

- 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

All 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.

Refrain

**All After the Sabbath, towards the dawn of the first day of the week,
Mary Magdalene went to the tomb.**

Prayers of Intercessions

These responses to ‘Lord, in your mercy’ is ‘hear our prayer.’

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son restored Mary Magdalene
to health of mind and body
and called her to be witness to his resurrection:
forgive our sins and heal us by your grace,
that we may serve you in the power of his risen life;
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

Looking for the coming of his kingdom, 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

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgment

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*Some material used from Common Worship Daily Prayer © The Archbishops’ Council
2005 (pages 149-154)*

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<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/morning-and-evening#mm008e6g>

Bible readings accessed from <https://bible.oremus.org/> New Revised Standard Version