

Evening Prayer Passiontide 1 April 2026 Wednesday of Holy Week

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Let your ways be known upon earth
your saving power among the nations.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
As we behold your Son, enthroned on the cross,
stir up in us the fire of your love,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins,
and walk with you in newness of life
singing the praise of him who died
for us and our salvation.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

1 Jesus, Saviour of the world, come to us in your mercy: •
we look to you to save and help us.

2 By your cross and your life laid down, you set your people free: •
we look to you to save and help us.

3 When they were ready to perish, you saved your disciples: •
we look to you to come to our help.

4 In the greatness of your mercy, loose us from our chains, •
forgive the sins of all your people.

5 Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty deliverer; •
save and help us that we may praise you.

6 Come now and dwell with us, Lord Christ Jesus: •
hear our prayer and be with us always.

7 And when you come in your glory: •
make us to be one with you and to share the life of your kingdom.

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

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.**

Psalm 88

You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

1 O Lord, God of my salvation, ♦

I have cried day and night before you.

2 Let my prayer come into your presence; ♦

incline your ear to my cry.

3 For my soul is full of troubles; ♦

my life draws near to the land of death.

4 I am counted as one gone down to the Pit; ♦

I am like one that has no strength,

5 Lost among the dead, ♦

like the slain who lie in the grave,

6 Whom you remember no more, ♦

for they are cut off from your hand.

7 You have laid me in the lowest pit, ♦

in a place of darkness in the abyss.

8 Your anger lies heavy upon me, ♦

and you have afflicted me with all your waves.

9 You have put my friends far from me ♦

and made me to be abhorred by them.

10 I am so fast in prison that I cannot get free; ♦

my eyes fail from all my trouble.

11 Lord, I have called daily upon you; ♦

I have stretched out my hands to you.

12 Do you work wonders for the dead? ♦

Will the shades stand up and praise you?

13 Shall your loving-kindness be declared in the grave, ♦

your faithfulness in the land of destruction?

14 Shall your wonders be known in the dark ♦

or your righteous deeds in the land where all is forgotten?

15 But as for me, O Lord, I will cry to you; ♦

early in the morning my prayer shall come before you.

16 Lord, why have you rejected my soul? ♦

Why have you hidden your face from me?

17 I have been wretched and at the point of death from my youth; ♦
I suffer your terrors and am no more seen.

18 Your wrath sweeps over me; ♦
your horrors are come to destroy me;

19 All day long they come about me like water; ♦
they close me in on every side.

20 Lover and friend have you put far from me ♦
and hid my companions out of my sight.

You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

*In the depths of our isolation
we cry to you, Lord God;
give light in our darkness
and bring us out of the prison of our despair
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**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.**

Isaiah 63.1-9

'Who is this that comes from Edom, from Bozrah in garments stained crimson?
Who is this so splendidly robed, marching in his great might?'

'It is I, announcing vindication, mighty to save.'

'Why are your robes red, and your garments like theirs who tread the wine press?'

'I have trodden the wine press alone, and from the peoples no one was with me;

I trod them in my anger and trampled them in my wrath;

their juice spattered on my garments, and stained all my robes.

For the day of vengeance was in my heart, and the year for my redeeming work had come.

I looked, but there was no helper; I stared, but there was no one to sustain me;

so my own arm brought me victory, and my wrath sustained me.

I trampled down peoples in my anger, I crushed them in my wrath,

and I poured out their lifeblood on the earth.'

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord,

because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel

that he has shown them according to his mercy,

according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely';

and he became their saviour in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them;

in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;

he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.

1 Christ Jesus was in the form of God, ♦
but he did not cling to equality with God.

2 He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, ♦
and was born in our human likeness.

3 Being found in human form he humbled himself, ♦
and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

4 Therefore God has highly exalted him, ♦
and bestowed on him the name above every name,

5 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ♦
in heaven and on earth and under the earth;

6 And every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, ♦
to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2.5-11

**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.**

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.

Revelation 14.18 - 15.4

Then another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over fire, and he called with a loud voice to him who had the sharp sickle, 'Use your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.' So the angel swung his sickle over the earth and gathered the vintage of the earth, and he threw it into the great wine press of the wrath of God. And the wine press was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the wine press, as high as a horse's bridle, for a distance of about two hundred miles.

Then I saw another portent in heaven, great and amazing: seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, for with them the wrath of God is ended.

And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

'Great and amazing are your deeds, Lord God the Almighty!

Just and true are your ways, King of the nations!

Lord, who will not fear and glorify your name?

For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you,

for your judgements have been revealed.'

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

Christ committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree

that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

By your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

By his wounds you have been healed.

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you;

by your holy cross, you have redeemed the world.

cf 1 Peter 2

God's love for us is revealed in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

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.

Luke 1.46-55

**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.**

God's love for us is revealed in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Prayers

Thanksgiving may be made for the day.

Intercessions are offered

¶ for peace

¶ for individuals and their needs

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,

and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
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

Standing at the foot of the cross, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

May Christ, who bore our sins on the cross, set us free to serve him with joy. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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