

*Morning Prayer on Monday, 8 September 2025*  
*The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

**Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips

***All***

**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
You founded the earth in the beginning  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.  
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,  
and in these last days you have spoken to us  
in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.  
As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us  
let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,  
your Spirit ever renew our lives  
and your praises ever be on our lips.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

***All: Blessed be God for ever.***

***Psalms 103.8-18***

1

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, ♦  
slow to anger and of great kindness.

2

He will not always accuse us, ♦  
neither will he keep his anger for ever.

3

He has not dealt with us according to our sins, ♦  
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

4

For as the heavens are high above the earth, ♦  
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

5

As far as the east is from the west, ♦  
so far has he set our sins from us.

6

As a father has compassion on his children, ♦  
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him.

7

For he knows of what we are made; ♦  
he remembers that we are but dust.

8

Our days are but as grass; ♦  
we flourish as a flower of the field;

9

For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone, ♦  
and its place shall know it no more.

10

But the merciful goodness of the Lord is from of old  
and endures for ever on those who fear him, ♦  
and his righteousness on children's children;

11

On those who keep his covenant ♦  
and remember his commandments to do them.

***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.**

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.

***All: Amen.***

# The Word of God

## Psalm 98

### **Refrain:**

*The Lord has made known his salvation.*

1

Sing to the Lord a new song, ♦  
for he has done marvellous things.

2

His own right hand and his holy arm ♦  
have won for him the victory.

3

The Lord has made known his salvation; ♦  
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the  
nations.

4

He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness  
towards the house of Israel, ♦  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of  
our God. *R*

5

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; ♦  
break into singing and make music.

6

Make music to the Lord with the lyre, ♦  
with the lyre and the voice of melody.

7

With trumpets and the sound of the horn ♦  
sound praises before the Lord, the King. *R*

8

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it, ♦  
the world and all that dwell upon it.

9

Let the rivers clap their hands ♦  
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord,  
for he comes to judge the earth.

10

In righteousness shall he judge the world ♦  
and the peoples with equity.

***Refrain:***

*The Lord has made known his salvation.*

*Lord God, just and true,*

*you make your salvation known in the sight of  
the nations;*

*tune the song of our hearts to the music of  
creation*

*as you come among us to judge the earth;  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.*

*Lord God, mighty king,  
you love justice and establish equity;  
may we love justice more than gain  
and mercy more than power;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**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.**

*Proverbs 14.31 - 15.17*

Those who oppress the poor insult their Maker,  
but those who are kind to the needy honour him.  
The wicked are overthrown by their evildoing,  
but the righteous find a refuge in their integrity.  
Wisdom is at home in the mind of one who has  
understanding,  
but it is not known in the heart of fools.  
Righteousness exalts a nation,  
but sin is a reproach to any people.  
A servant who deals wisely has the king's favour,  
but his wrath falls on one who acts shamefully.

A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge,  
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.  
The eyes of the Lord are in every place,  
keeping watch on the evil and the good.  
A gentle tongue is a tree of life,  
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.  
A fool despises a parent's instruction,  
but the one who heeds admonition is prudent.  
In the house of the righteous there is much treasure,  
but trouble befalls the income of the wicked.  
The lips of the wise spread knowledge;  
not so the minds of fools.  
The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord,  
but the prayer of the upright is his delight.  
The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord,  
but he loves the one who pursues righteousness.  
There is severe discipline for one who forsakes the way,  
but one who hates a rebuke will die.  
Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the Lord,  
how much more human hearts!  
Scoffers do not like to be rebuked;  
they will not go to the wise.  
A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance,  
but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken.  
The mind of one who has understanding seeks knowledge,

but the mouths of fools feed on folly.  
All the days of the poor are hard,  
but a cheerful heart has a continual feast.  
Better is a little with the fear of the Lord  
than great treasure and trouble with it.  
Better is a dinner of vegetables where love is  
than a fatted ox and hatred with it.

***Refrain:***

***All***

**All the earth, shout and sing for joy,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One.**

***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.**

***Mark 6.45-end***

Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

When evening came, the boat was out on the lake, and he was alone on the land. When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, walking on the lake. He intended to pass them by. But when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought it was a



ghost and cried out; for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

**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.**

### **Short Reflection**

In Mark 6:45-end he describes Jesus walking on water to his disciples who are struggling against the wind in a boat on the Sea of Galilee. They are terrified, thinking he is a ghost, but Jesus calms them and gets in the boat, causing the wind to die down. The disciples are amazed but fail to understand the miracle of the loaves, indicating their hardened hearts. The passage concludes

with the disciples reaching the land of Gennesaret, where people recognize Jesus and bring the sick to him, and all who touched his cloak were healed.

Here is a summary of the events in this reading:

- Jesus sends the disciples across the lake: while he stays to dismiss the crowd after the feeding of the five thousand.
- Jesus goes to a mountain to pray: alone.
- The disciples struggle in a boat: on the stormy sea, and Jesus sees them toiling at the oars.
- Jesus walks on the water: toward the boat, and the disciples, seeing him in the dark, think he is a ghost and cry out in fear.
- Jesus speaks to them, telling them not to be afraid, and then gets into the boat with them, at which point the wind dies down.
- The disciples are greatly amazed: but fail to understand, their hearts hardened by their inability to grasp the miracle of the loaves that happened earlier. Jesus can produce miracles, heal the sick and now can control the elements. Who is this man?
- They land at Gennesaret, and the people recognize Jesus and bring the sick to him, begging to touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touch it are healed. **What would you want to bring to Jesus this morning? What needs do you/we all have to come to him as he comes to us and soften our hearts?**

## Prayers

Dear Lord, as the vibrant colours of spring and summer begin to fade into autumnal shades of glorious gold, we thank you for this beautiful countryside around us.

We praise you for our freedom to come together this morning to proclaim our faith and discipleship in you.

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church on earth. We lift to you the Crown Nominations Committee, meeting this month to appoint the new archbishop. May their decision be based on your Word and your discerned will.

We give thanks for Paula and Jim, our priests and Pim and Caroline our Readers, and all who minister in this benefice; may they be guided by your Holy Spirit and strengthened by your Word and head to your calling.

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

We lift to you our King and Queen and our Royal family giving thanks for their dedication to their people and country, we pray they are blessed in your love.

We pray for our Government adjusting to the re-shuffle of ministers roles and seeking to service the nation. For leaders of the world that they may rule wisely, justly and mercifully.....

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for Christians around the world, especially those living under persecution and all who take your Word out to

those ready to hear. Uphold them Lord, by your peace in their hearts. We pray for aid agencies all those who feed the hungry and tend to the sick and needy.....

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

Father of our Lord Jesus, amidst the increasing turmoil of this world, we pray for our young people; those starting or changing school, those off to further education, perhaps being away from home and family for the first time.

Great God, hold these precious lives in your arms of protection and love, give them strength to seek help when they need it.

We lift to you all who teach our young and prepare them for life in the world.....we pray for families as they meet the everyday needs of bringing up their families in this uncertain and changing often stormy world.

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all we know who are unwell, in pain, awaiting treatment and especially those starting prolonged cancer care.

We also pray for all who mourn the passing of a loved one and may have an anniversary at this time.

And.....

We remember those who have died in faith and today we remember Catherine, Duchess of Kent and give you thanks for all the help she has been to so many people during her life, may she be at peace with you.

Lord in your mercy ....**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for your Holy Spirit to be with us during the week ahead; to guide us in our decisions;

to strengthen us in our work and be ever mindful of your generosity, your love and grace to us all.  
May our hearts be soften to you Lord, and may we like Peter step out in faith knowing you are their and ready to catch us if we stumble.....

Merciful Father, **Accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### ***The Collect of the day is said***

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who stooped to raise fallen humanity  
through the child-bearing of blessed Mary:  
grant that we, who have seen your glory  
revealed in our human nature  
and your love made perfect in our weakness,  
may daily be renewed in your image  
and conformed to the pattern of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

***All***

**Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer is said***

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All**

**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.**