

*Morning Prayer on Monday, 13 October 2025*  
*Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066*

## **Preparation**

O Lord, open our lips

***All***

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

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.

***All***

**Blessed be God for ever.**

## ***Psalm 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.

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 65: 1,2,8-13

Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion;  
to you our vows will be fulfilled.

You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.  
The whole earth is filled with awe at your wonders;  
where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call  
forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it  
abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water to provide the  
people with grain, for so you have ordained it.

You drench the furrows and level its ridges;  
You soften it with showers and bless its crops.  
You crown the year with your bounty and your carts  
overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the wilderness overflow; the hills are  
clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys  
are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.

**Reader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God

**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.**

***Isaiah 12.2-6***

1

‘Behold, God is my salvation; ♦  
I will trust and will not be afraid;

2

‘For the Lord God is my strength and my song, ♦  
and has become my salvation.’

3

With joy you will draw water ♦  
from the wells of salvation.

4

On that day you will say, ♦  
‘Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name;

5

‘Make known his deeds among the nations, ♦  
proclaim that his name is exalted.

6

‘Sing God’s praises, who has triumphed gloriously; ♦  
let this be known in all the world.

7

‘Shout and sing for joy, you that dwell in Zion, ♦  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.’

**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.**

**All**

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

**Mark 14.1-11**

It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said, ‘Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.’

While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in

anger, 'Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.' And they scolded her. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.'

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

### ***Short Reflection***

Mark 14:1-11 illustrates a moment of extravagant devotion and its contrast with self-interest. An anonymous woman anoints Jesus with expensive perfume, which some disciples see as a waste, while Jesus declares her action a beautiful and praiseworthy thing that will be remembered forever. The passage highlights how the woman, having understood Jesus's impending death, acts in love, while Judas's criticism reveals his own greed, ultimately foreshadowing the betrayal that follows.

- Extravagant devotion: The woman's act is one of pure, selfless love, preparing Jesus's body for burial even before he has died. Her gift is costly, representing all she has, but it is not a calculation of what is "decently" owed—it is an overflowing expression of devotion.
- Critique and greed: The disciples' anger at the "waste" of the perfume stems from a misunderstanding of who Jesus is and his purpose. Judas's concern for the poor is a pretext for his own greed, as he sees a financial opportunity that he can exploit.
- Jesus's affirmation: He elevates her selfless act over the more practical but less devotional gesture of giving to the poor, emphasizing that his own presence is a unique and limited time.
- The truth of the heart: The woman's devotion is based on her deep understanding of Jesus, while the disciples' criticism shows their lack of it.
- A model for discipleship: Her story reminds believers that true devotion is not about what is practical but about responding to God's love with generosity and sacrifice, and that nothing given to God in love is ever wasted or forgotten.
- Foreshadowing betrayal: The contrast between the woman's act of love and Judas's betrayal is stark, a powerful foreshadowing of the events to come.



- The "Good News": The story is considered "Good News" because it offers an example of how to respond to Jesus's love, and because Mark includes it in his gospel, it is a story of authentic discipleship that will be told for generations.

### **Luke 1.68-79**

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.

***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.**

## Prayers

Let us pray to our Almighty father with thanksgiving for all the blessings he gives to us.

Father, we pray for a spirit of thankfulness for all that you provide, your protection and healing, whether in our personal lives or for communities and the nation.

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

Father, empower the Church to be a refuge for all people and a light to the nations. As we freely worship you this morning, we remember those who worship in secret places, fearful of the consequences of declaring their faith in Jesus Christ. We ask for their safety and protection. Keep all those who minister to others, always ready to receive and comfort those who come to them for any kind of help.

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

Father, bring reconciliation wherever there is conflict between faiths and races. We pray that there will be a spirit of peace, where no one is despised for their status or condition, but all may be drawn into a life of harmony. We pray especially for the delicate negotiations for a peaceful settlement to the war between the people of Israel and Gaza, trusting that your hand is over the whole situation. We pray for peace in Ukraine.....

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

Father, we pray for our families, friends and neighbours, for shared compassion and mutual help. Bless and strengthen all who work in our community for the abandoned and homeless, for those treated as invisible and unlovely. With a spirit of gratitude may we be thankful for all the blessings we have received and, in turn, may we have hearts open, ready to share our faith with those who need to hear and receive it.

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

Father, give healing to the sick and skill to those who work for them. We pray particularly for those who are shunned because of their particular disease, for the sorrowful and anxious, the guilt ridden and depressed. Give courage to the long-term and chronically ill. Let us pray for any known to us.....

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

Father, we remember those who have died and we think of their loved ones who will miss them. May all who have died in faith, receive the eternal joy of heaven.

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

Send us out this week, united in praise and service. Fill us with enthusiasm and joy, increasing and confirming our faith in you, that through us, those we come into contact with may come to Christ to be cleansed and healed.

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

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

Sovereign God,  
who set your servant Edward  
    upon the throne of an earthly kingdom  
and inspired him with zeal for the kingdom of heaven:  
grant that we may so confess the faith of Christ  
    by word and deed,  
that we may, with all your saints, inherit your eternal  
glory;  
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.

***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.**