

The Benefice of Chew Valley East

Morning Prayer for a Feast of Mary, Mother of God Celebrated on Sunday 16 August 2026

*If you wish to join in the service, then the words in **bold** are to be said together.
Please join in with the Psalms and Canticles by reciting each one in its entirety.*

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
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.
Blessed be God for ever.

after Lancelot Andrewes (1626)

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

Psalm 45: 10-17

¹⁰Hear, O daughter; consider and incline your ear; ♦
forget your own people and your father's house.

¹¹So shall the king have pleasure in your beauty; ♦
he is your lord, so do him honour.

¹²The people of Tyre shall bring you gifts; ♦
the richest of the people shall seek your favour.

¹³The king's daughter is all glorious within; ♦
her clothing is embroidered cloth of gold.

¹⁴She shall be brought to the king in raiment of needlework; ♦
after her the virgins that are her companions.

¹⁵With joy and gladness shall they be brought ♦
and enter into the palace of the king.

¹⁶Instead of your fathers you shall have sons ♦
whom you shall make princes over all the land.

¹⁷'I will make your name to be remembered through all generations; ♦
therefore shall the peoples praise you for ever and ever.'

**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.**

First Reading: Revelation 11:19 - 12:6, 10

¹⁹God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple; and there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

¹A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ²She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. ³Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. ⁴His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman who was about to bear a child, so that he might devour her child as soon as it was born. ⁵And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne; ⁶and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, so that there she can be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been
thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God.'

Canticle

**Blessed are those who believe,
for what God has promised will be fulfilled.**

¹My heart exults in the Lord; ♦
my strength is exalted in my God.

²My mouth derides my enemies, ♦
because I rejoice in your salvation.

³There is no Holy One like you, O Lord, ♦
nor any Rock like you, our God.

⁴For you are a God of knowledge ♦
and by you our actions are weighed.

⁵The bows of the mighty are broken, ♦
but the feeble gird on strength.

⁶Those who were full now hire themselves out for bread, ♦
but those who were hungry are well fed.

⁷The barren woman has borne sevenfold, ♦
but she who has many children is forlorn.

⁸Both the poor and the rich are of your making; ♦
you bring low and you also exalt.

⁹You raise up the poor from the dust, ♦
and lift the needy from the ash heap.

¹⁰You make them sit with the rulers ♦
and inherit a place of honour.

¹¹For the pillars of the earth are yours ♦
and on them you have set the world.

1 Samuel 2.1, 2, 3b-5, 7, 8

**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.**

**Blessed are those who believe,
for what God has promised will be fulfilled.**

Second Reading: Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶‘My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
⁴⁸for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’

Responsory

Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
and be not wise in your own sight.

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
and be not wise in your own sight.**

In all your ways acknowledge him
and he will make straight your paths.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

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

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
and be not wise in your own sight.**

from Proverbs 3

Gospel Cantic: Benedictus

**In the womb of Mary, you found a dwelling place on earth, O Christ;
remain for ever in our hearts.**

¹Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

²He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

³Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

⁴To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

⁵This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

⁶Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

⁷And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

⁸To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

⁹In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

¹⁰To 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*

**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.**

**In the womb of Mary, you found a dwelling place on earth, O Christ;
remain for ever in our hearts.**

Intercessions

To the words: Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.
Please respond: **Holy is your name.**

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we say with Mary:

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive and bear a son
who would be called God-with-us. Help us to look forward to your deliverance
and to seek the fullness of your kingdom.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Saviour.
Help every Christian person to be open to your word and obedient to your will.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang your praise, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.' Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Mary bore a son of David's line, a king whose reign would never end.

Bless all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph. Strengthen our homes and families, and keep under your protection all those whom we love.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother, and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms. Give comfort and healing to all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun.

Bring us with all those who have died in the faith of Christ

to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you. **Holy is your name.**

Almighty and everlasting God,
your handmaid Mary magnified your name
and rejoiced in your saving love:
trusting in that same love,
we ask all these our prayers
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect

Almighty God,
who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and chose her to be the mother of your only Son:
grant that we who are redeemed by his blood
may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom;
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.**

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Conclusion

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

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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