

Evening prayer Tuesday & Wednesday



Evening Prayer at the conference is shared in small groups (the same groups as for the Bible study in the mornings). We hope this will allow you to get to know people a little better and provide an opportunity to begin genuinely praying for one another's real concerns, in whatever manner you are comfortable, as the days go on.

Please choose from among the group someone to lead each night, someone to read and someone to begin the short chants, which we hope will be familiar enough to most to sing unaccompanied. Please do not ask the bishops or archdeacons to lead, as they will be leading worship at other points.

Please bring this booklet with you to your small group each evening.

Liturgy taken from Common Worship Daily Prayer, New Patterns for Worship, and The Canterbury Book of New Parish Prayers by MJ Kramer (Norwich, Canterbury Press, 2021). Some liturgical materials in this service are copyright and reproduced here by permission: Common Worship © The Archbishops' Council 2000–2008.

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Leader O God, make speed to save us
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

A time of silence is kept as we reflect on the themes of the day. Then all sing twice:

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a -

way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the

fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way.

Text: Taizé Community, 1991
 Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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Leader As our evening prayer rises before you, O Lord,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Psalm 136: 1–4, 19–21

Please join in with the words in bold, pausing at the halfway point in the verse.

Leader Alleluia. Praise the name of the Lord; :
give praise, you servants of the Lord,

All **You that stand in the house of the Lord, :
in the courts of the house of our God.**

Leader Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; :
make music to his name, for it is lovely.

All **For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself :
and Israel for his own possession.**

Leader Bless the Lord, O house of Israel; :
O house of Aaron, bless the Lord.

All **Bless the Lord, O house of Levi; :
you who fear the Lord, bless the Lord.**

Leader Blessed be the Lord from Zion, :
who dwells in Jerusalem. Alleluia.

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.**

Bible Reading

Lamentations 3: 19–33

The thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!

My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

‘The Lord is my portion,’ says my soul,
‘therefore I will hope in him.’

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

It is good for one to bear the yoke in youth,
to sit alone in silence when the Lord has imposed it,
to put one’s mouth to the dust
(there may yet be hope),
to give one’s cheek to the smiter,
and be filled with insults.

For the Lord will not reject for ever.
Although he causes grief, he will have compassion
according to the abundance of his steadfast love;
for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

A time of silence for reflection on the reading.

Responsory

Leader O Lord, you have searched me out and known me,
All **you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

Leader You mark out my journeys and my resting place
All **and are acquainted with all my ways.**

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

All **You encompass me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.**

Psalm 139.1-2, 24

Please stand together to say the Magnificat, pausing at the halfway point in the verse.

Canticle

All **My spirit rejoices in you, O God,
my soul proclaims your greatness.**

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

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 **My spirit rejoices in you, O God,
my soul proclaims your greatness.**

Responding together

Move into small groups of two or three, or find space on your own. In groups, share with one another something of your ministry contexts and what you are hoping for from these days at the conference (or alone, consciously bring those things before God). If you are comfortable doing so, you might also want to share those things you find yourself lamenting and holding before God in prayer. After a few minutes, as the leader indicates, return to the larger group. The leader continues in prayer.

Leader Together we pray:

All **God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Leader 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 ever.
Amen.**

Conclusion

Leader In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen**

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Leader O God, make speed to save us
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

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

A time of silence is kept as we reflect on the themes of the day. Then all sing twice:

Theme A

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in

God I trust, in God I trust. The

Fine

Theme B

The Lord is my light, my light and sal - va - tion: in

God I trust, in God I trust. The

Fine

Leader As our evening prayer rises before you, O Lord,
 so may your mercy come down upon us
 to cleanse our hearts
 and set us free to sing your praise
 now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Leader O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader O give thanks to the God of gods
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader who alone does great wonders,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader who by understanding made the heavens,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader who spread out the earth on the waters,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader who made the great lights,
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader O give thanks to the God of heaven
All **for his steadfast love endures forever.**

New Testament Reading

Hebrews 12: 1-13

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children—

‘My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord,
or lose heart when you are punished by him;
for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves,
and chastises every child whom he accepts.’

Endure trials for the sake of discipline. God is treating you as children; for what child is there whom a parent does not discipline? If you do not have that discipline in which all children share, then you are illegitimate and not his children. Moreover, we had human parents to discipline us, and we respected them. Should we not be even more willing to be subject to the Father of spirits and live? For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share his holiness. Now, discipline always seems painful rather than pleasant at the time, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed.

A time of silence for reflection on the reading.

Responsory

Leader How deep are your counsels to me, O God!,

All **How great is the sum of them!**

Leader If I count them, they are more in number than the sand,

All **and at the end, I am still in your presence.**

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

All **Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and examine my thoughts.**

Psalm 139.17-18, 13

Please stand together to say the Canticle, pausing at the halfway point in the verse.

Canticle

Great and Wonderful

All **All nations shall come and worship you, O Christ,
and share in the feast of your kingdom.**

1 Great and wonderful are your deeds, :
 Lord God the Almighty.

2 **Just and true are your ways, :
 O ruler of the nations.**

3 Who shall not revere and praise your name, O Lord? :
 for you alone are holy.

4 **All nations shall come and worship in your presence: :
 for your just dealings have been revealed.**

Revelation 15.3,4

All To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb :
 be blessing and honour and glory and might,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

All **All nations shall come and worship you, O Christ,
 and share in the feast of your kingdom.**

Responding together

Move into small groups of two or three, or find space on your own. In groups or alone, recall the story of God's call on your life. You might want to share the moment where you first heard God calling you, or some of the ways in which you have seen your calling interweave with the person God made you to be. You might also wish to share how God is continuing to nurture your calling at this moment. After a few minutes, as the leader indicates, return to the larger group. The leader continues in prayer.

Leader
All

Together we pray:
Lord God,
we thank you for your calling to be disciples of your Son.
Stir up within us, we pray, the many gifts of your Spirit,
that through all our actions and all our words
we would reflect your love to the world,
and through our characters and our lives
others would be drawn to hunger
for the truth of the gospel;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader
All

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 ever.
Amen.

Conclusion

Leader Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Leader Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**



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