

Morning Prayer of the Church for Friday of Holy Week

We make the sign of the cross as we say:

O God come to our aid
Glory be to the Father...

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.
All: As it was in the ...without end, Amen.



Invitatory Psalm

Psalm 94 (95)

*From the earliest times the Church has used this psalm as a call to worship.
We are invited to come singing into the presence of God; to come with enthusiastic joy and thanksgiving
as the best way to express our love to God, who is both saviour and king.*

Leader: Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.
All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

Leader: Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the God who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord.

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him**

**A mighty God is the Lord, a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his.
To him belongs the sea, for he made it and the dry land shaped by his hands.**

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

Leader: Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us:
for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.**

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

Leader: For forty years I was wearied of these people and I said:
“Their hearts are astray, these people do not know my ways.”
Then I took an oath in my anger: “Never shall they enter my rest.”

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

All: **Christ, the Son of God, redeemed us with his blood. Come, let us adore him.**

Hymn

Hail Redeemer, King divine!
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine;
King, whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace.

King most holy, King of truth,
guard the lowly, guide the youth;
Christ thou King of glory bright,
be to us eternal light.

***Angels, saints and nations sing :
"Praise be Jesus Christ our King;
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,
King of love on Calvary!"***

King, whose name creation thrills,
rule our hearts, our minds, our wills;
till in peace, each nation rings
with thy praises, King of kings.

Shepherd-king, o'er mountains steep
homeward bring the wandering sheep;
shelter in one royal fold
states and kingdoms, new and old.

Psalm 50 - God have mercy on me

God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all.

Leader

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when you judge,
O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I conceived.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed may revive.
From my sins turn away your face
and blot out all my guilt.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would refuse,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

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

All

**My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.**

**Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.
O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.**

**A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.**

**O rescue me, God, my helper,
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.**

**In your goodness, show favour to Sion:
rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
Then you will be pleased with lawful sacrifice,
holocausts offered on your altar.**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Antiphon All: God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all

Psalm-prayer

Father, he who knew no sin was made sin for us, to save us and restore us to your friendship. Look upon our contrite heart and afflicted spirit and heal our troubled conscience, so that in the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit we may proclaim your praise and glory before all the nations.

Short Reading

Isaiah 52:13-15

See, my servant will prosper, he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him – so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human – so will the crowds be astonished at him, and kings stand speechless before him; for they shall see something never told and witness something never heard before.

Short Responsory

Christ humbled himself for us and, in obedience, accepted death, even death on a cross.

Canticle of Zechariah (*The Benedictus*)

Antiphon: Over his head was placed the charge against him:
'This is Jesus, the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.'

Blest be the Lord, the God of Israel,
Who brings the dawn and darkest night dispels,
Who raises up a mighty Saviour from the earth,
Of David's line, a son of royal birth.

And you, my child, this day you shall be called
The promised one, the prophet of our God,
For you will go before the Lord to clear the way,
And shepherd all into the light of day.

The prophets tell a story just begun
Of vanquished foe and glorious vict'ry won,
Of promise made to all who keep the law as guide:
God's faithful love and mercy will abide.

The tender love God promised from our birth
Is soon to dawn upon this shadowed earth,
To shine on those whose sorrows seem to never cease,
To guide our feet into the path of peace.

This is the oath once sworn to Abraham:
All shall be free to dwell upon the land,
Free now to praise, unharmed by the oppressor's rod,
Holy and righteous in the sight of God.

All glory be to God, Creator blest,
To Jesus Christ, God's love made manifest,
And to the Holy Spirit, gentle Comforter,
All glory be, both now and ever more.

Antiphon: Over his head was placed the charge against him:
'This is Jesus, the Nazarene, the King of the Jews.'

Prayers and intercessions

Let us pray to our Redeemer, who suffered for us, was buried, and rose from the dead.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Lord and master, for us you became obedient even to death; keep us faithful to God's will in the darkness of our lives.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Jesus, our life, by dying on the cross you destroyed hell and death; grant that we may die with you and rise with you in glory.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Christ, our king, you were the scorn of the people, a worm not a man; teach us to tread your path of humility.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Jesus, our Saviour, you laid down your life for your friends; let us love one another as you have loved us.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Jesus, our hope, you stretched out your hands on the cross to embrace all ages of men; gather all God's scattered children into the kingdom of salvation.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

All: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison

Our Father, who art in heaven.....

Concluding Prayer

Be mindful, Lord, of this your family, for whose sake our Lord Jesus Christ, when betrayed, did not hesitate to yield himself into his enemies' hands and undergo the agony of the cross. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.