

# The Order for Evensong

## Opening Hymn

## Opening Sentences for Lent

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. *Psalm 51. 17.*

Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God; for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. *Joel 2. 13.*

## Exhortation to Confession

DEARLY beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.

Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace.

## General Confession

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done; And there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

## Prayer of Pardon through the Cross

ALMIGHTY Father, who of thy great love didst give thy dearly beloved Son to die for us; Grant that through his Cross our sins may be put away, and remembered no more against us, and that, cleansed by his Blood, and mindful of his sufferings, we may take up our cross daily, and follow him in newness of life, until we come to his everlasting kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Opening Responses

O Lord, open thou our lips;

**And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us;

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

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

Praise ye the Lord;  
The Lord's Name be praised.

## The Psalms

### The First Lesson

### The Magnificat (Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded / the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth / all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me; / and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him / throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; / he hath scattered the proud in the  
imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, / and hath exalted the humble and  
meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things; / and the rich he hath sent empty  
away.

He remembering his mercy / hath holpen his servant Israel;

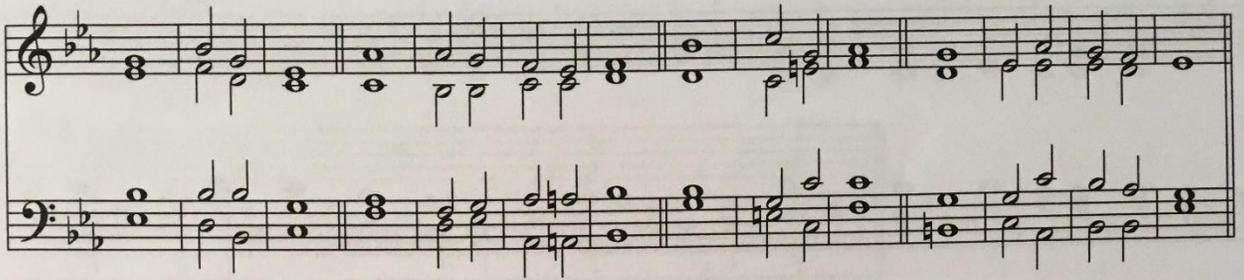
As he promised to our forefathers, / Abraham and his seed for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost;

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

# Magnificat

S. S. WESLEY



My soul | magni-fies the | Lord  
and my spirit has re- | joiced in | God my | Savior,  
For | He has • re- | garded  
the | low es- | tate of • His | handmaiden.

For behold, from | this time | forth  
all gener- | ations shall | call me | bles-sed,  
For the Mighty One has done | great things • for | me,  
and | ho-ly | is His | name.

And His mercy is upon generation after | gen-er- | ation  
Toward | those who | **FEAR** | Him  
He has shown | strength with • His | arm;  
He has scattered the proud in the imagi- | na-tion | of their | hearts.

He has brought down the | mighty • from their | thrones,  
And exalted | those of | low de- | gree.  
He has filled the hungry with | **GOOD** | things,  
And the rich He has | sent a-way | emp-ty- | handed.

He has given help to His | ser-vant | Israel,  
So as to re- | member His | mercy for- | ever;  
As He | spoke to • our | fathers,  
To | Abra-ham and | to his | seed.

Glory | be to • the | Father,  
And to the | Son, • and to the | Ho-ly | Spirit;  
As it | was in • the be- | ginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, | age after | age. A- | men.

## The Second Lesson

### The Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon)

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, / according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, / which thou hast prepared before the face  
of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, / and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, / and to the Holy Ghost;

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

### The Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell;

The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven,

And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of  
Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life  
everlasting. Amen.

## The Lesser Litany

The Lord be with you;

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

**OUR Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

**And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen;

**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness;

**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people;

**And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord;

**And evermore mightily defend us.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us;

**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

## The Collect(s) of the Day

## **The Collect for Ash Wednesday**

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Second Collect, for Peace**

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

## **The Third Collect, for Aid against all Perils**

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Hymn**

## **Prayer in the time of any common Plague or Sickness**

O ALMIGHTY God, the Lord of life and death, have pity on us miserable sinners, now visited with great sickness [and mortality]. Withdraw from us, we pray thee, this grievous affliction. Teach us so to understand and obey thy laws, that under thy good providence we may live in health and well-being all our days. Enlarge our charity to relieve the distressed, and above all, bless this visitation to the welfare of thy people and the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer in time of Great Sickness and Mortality**

O MOST mighty and merciful God, in this time of grievous sickness, we flee unto thee for succour. Deliver us, we beseech thee, from our peril; give strength and skill to all those who minister to the sick; prosper the means made use of for their cure; and grant that, perceiving how frail and uncertain our life is, we may apply our hearts unto that heavenly wisdom which leadeth to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **A General Intercession**

BE mindful, O Lord, of thy people bowed before thee, and of those who are absent through age, sickness, or infirmity. Care for the infants, guide the young, support the aged, encourage the faint-hearted, collect the scattered, and bring the wandering to thy fold. Travel with the voyagers, defend the widows, shield the orphans, deliver the captives, heal the sick. Succour all who are in tribulation, necessity, or distress. Remember for good all those that love us, and those that hate us, and those that have desired us, unworthy as we are, to pray for them. And those whom we have forgotten, do thou, O Lord, remember. For thou art the Helper of the helpless, the Saviour of the lost, the Refuge of the wanderer, the Healer of the sick. Thou, who knowest each man's need, and hast heard his prayer, grant unto each according to thy merciful loving-kindness and thy eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## At Eventide

O LORD, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Supplication

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thy Name's sake.

O God, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

**O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thine honour.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

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

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thy Name's sake.

**From our enemies defend us, O Christ;**

Graciously look upon our afflictions.

**Pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts;**

Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.

**Favourably with mercy hear our prayers;**

O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

**Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ;**

Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

**Lord, deal not with us according to our sins;**

Neither reward us according to our iniquities.

O GOD, merciful Father, that despisest not the sighing of a contrite heart, nor the desire of such as be sorrowful: Mercifully assist our prayers that we make before thee in all our troubles and adversities, whensoever they oppress us; and graciously hear us, that those evils, which the craft and subtilty of the devil or man worketh against us, be brought to nought; and by the providence of thy goodness they may be dispersed; that we thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions, may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **The Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **2 Corinthians 13. 14.**

**THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.**