



VESPERS on the
Commemoration of
George Augustus Selwyn
1st Bishop of New Zealand, 1878

2024 Apr 11

The Preparation

Presider

George Augustus Selwyn became the first bishop of New Zealand in 1841, and built up a self-governing Church in which Europeans and Maori natives had an equal say. He worked hard to make the English colonists recognize the rights and human dignity of the Maoris, but his pleas and warnings were largely ignored, and three Maori uprisings were the result.

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He left New Zealand in 1867 to become bishop of Lichfield, in the Midlands of England, creating special ministries to miners, itinerant workers, and the homeless poor, and believing wholeheartedly in the concept of local synods, gave lay people a share in making diocesan policies. He died at Lichfield on this day in the year 1878.

Adapted from *“For All the Saints”*

The Preparation

Presider

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

From the rising of the sun to its setting
your glory is proclaimed in all the world.

Glory to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning is now and will be forever.
Amen. Alleluia.

Act of Praise

*O Gracious Light,
Common Praise #14*

Presider or Cantor

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
in you the Father's glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is he,
and blest are you, his holy Son.

Now sunset comes but light shines forth;
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Father, Son and Spirit:
God who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise,
O Son of God, life giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth
and in the highest heaven adored.

Psalm

Psalm 96: 1 - 7

Psalmist

Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

Sing to the Lord and bless his name; *
**proclaim the good news of his salvation from
day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations; *
and his wonders among all peoples.

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; *
he is more to be feared than all gods.

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

Psalm (cont'd)

Psalm 96: 1 - 7

Psalmist

Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! *

Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *

ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

Psalm prayer

Presider

We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness, and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for all, through your Son Jesus Christ the Lord.

Reading

Matthew 10: 7 - 16

Reader

As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment, give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff, for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town. "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

Response

*After a brief period of reflection,
the Reader says:*

Blessed are the meek, for they shall
inherit the earth.

Thanks be to God.

Intercessions, Petitions & Thanksgiving

Presider

Let us remember

- the unity of the Church;
- the peace of the world;
- the healing of the sick;
- the revelation of Christ to those from whom his glory is hidden;
- all who travel, and
- our own petitions, intercessions and thanksgivings

Versicles & Responses

Presider

Lord, open a path for your Word
to declare the mystery of Christ.

Turn now, O God of hosts;
behold and tend the vine you have planted.

May your people rejoice and sing,
and your ministers be clothed with salvation.

May they stand and feed your flock
in the strength of your name.

Keep from trouble all those who trust in you
and forget not the poor forever.

Have mercy, O Lord, upon us,
as we have put our hope in you.

The Collect

Presider

Almighty God,
hear our prayers and supplications
as we remember your servant George Augustus Selwyn,
and enrich your Church in every land
with manifold gifts of service,
that by constant witness and selfless devotion
we may share with one another, and with all the world,
the immeasurable wealth of your salvation:
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider

Believing in the promises of God,
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,
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen**

The Sending Forth

Deacon (or Presider)

Let us go forth into the night, rejoicing
in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Presider

May the Lord of peace give us peace
in all ways and at all times..

Amen. Alleluia!