

The Order for Evening Prayer: Trinity 15

THE OFFICE

STAND

The Introit: Justorum Animae (William Byrd)

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 Spirit;
**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.

Psalm 119: 121-128

121 I have done that which is / lawful • and / right:
O give me not / over • unto / mine op-/pressors.

122 Be thou surety for thy / servant's / good:
O let not / arro • gant / men op- /press me.

123 Mine eyes are wasted away with looking for / thy de- / liverance:
and for the / word / of thy / righteousness.

124 O deal with thy servant according to thy / loving / mercy:
and / teach me / thy / statutes.

125 I am thy servant, * O grant me / under- / standing:
that / I may / know thy / testimonies.

126 It is time to awake and bestir thy-/ self O / Lord:
because they have made thy / law of / none ac- / count.

127 I love thy commandments a-/bove / all things:
more than gold, yea / more than / fine / gold.

128 Therefore I walk uprightly according to / all thy / precepts:
and all false ways / utter-/ly ab-/hor.

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. /
A- / men.

The first lesson is read from the Old Testament or the Apocrypha.

Ezekiel 33. 23, 30 - 34.10

The word of the LORD came to me: As for you, mortal, your people who talk together about you by the walls, and at the doors of the houses, say to one another, each to a neighbour, "Come and hear what the word is that comes from the LORD." They come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear your words, but they will not obey them. For flattery is on their lips, but their heart is set on their gain. To them you are like a singer of love songs, one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; they hear what you say, but they will not do it. When this comes – and come it will! – then they shall know that a prophet has been among them.

The word of the LORD came to me: Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them – to the shepherds: Thus says the Lord GOD: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them. Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: As I live, says the Lord GOD, because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd; and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep; therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: Thus says the Lord GOD, I am against the shepherds; and I will demand my sheep at their hand, and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

MAGNIFICAT (*Luke 1.46*)

- 1 My soul doth / magnify • the / Lord: and my spirit hath re- / joiced in / God
my / Saviour.
- 2 For he / hath re- / garded: the / lowli • ness / of his / handmaiden.
- 3 For be- / hold, from / henceforth: all gener- / ations • shall / call me / blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath / magni- • fied / me: and / holy / is his / name.
- 5 And his mercy is on / them that / fear him: through- / out all / gener- / ations,
- 6 He hath showed / strength • with his / arm: he hath scattered the proud * in
the imagin- / ation / of their / hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty / from their / seat: and hath ex- / alted • the /
humble • and / meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with / good / things: and the rich he hath / sent /
empty • a- / way.
- 9 He re- / membering • his / mercy: hath / helped his / servant / Israel;
- 10 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 / Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, * is now, and / ever / shall be: world without / end.
/ A- / men.

The second lesson is read from the New Testament.

Acts 26. 1, 9-25

Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself: "I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities. "With this in mind, I was traveling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads. I asked, Who are you, Lord? The Lord answered, I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you. I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles – to whom I am sending you to open their eyes so

that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me. "After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me. To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: that the Messiah must suffer, and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles." While he was making this defence, Festus exclaimed, "You are out of your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!" But Paul said, "I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking the sober truth.

STAND

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Luke 2.29*)

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de- / part in / peace: ac- / cording / to thy / word.
- 2 For mine eyes have / seen • thy sal- / vation: which thou hast prepared before the / face of / all / peoples.
- 3 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 / Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, * is now, and / ever / shall be:
world without / end. / A- / men.

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 Spirit,
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 is seated at 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 Spirit;

the Holy Catholic Church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

KNEEL

The Lord be with you.

And with your 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 those who 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.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

O Lord, save the *Queen*;
And give her counsellors wisdom.

Give peace in our time, O Lord;
And evermore mightily defend us.

Make clean our hearts, O God;
And renew a right spirit within us.
The Collect of the day.

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Almighty and most merciful God, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that are according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Second Collect, for Peace

Almighty 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 that, being defended by thee from the fear of our enemies, we may pass our time in rest and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**

The Anthem: Haec Dies (William Byrd).

The Intercessions

The Grace

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