

Morning Prayer of The Church for HOLY THURSDAY



O God come to our aid.

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.

Hymn: Love is His Word

Love is His word, love is His way

Feasting with men, fasting alone

Living and dying, rising again

Love, only love, is His Way

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord

Better than splendour and wealth

Love is His way, love is His mark

Sharing His last Passover feast

Christ at the table, host to the Twelve

Love, only love, is His mark

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord

Better than splendour and wealth

Ant. 1 Look, Lord, and answer quickly, for I am in distress.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us, you who lead Joseph's flock,
shine forth from your cherubim throne upon Ephraim, Benjamin, Manasseh.

O Lord rouse up your might, O Lord come to our help.

God of hosts, bring us back;

let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Lord God of hosts, how long will you frown on your people's plea?

You have fed them with tears for their bread, an abundance of tears for their drink.

You have made us the taunt of our neighbours; our enemies laugh us to scorn.

God of hosts, bring us back;

let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations.

Before it you cleared the ground; it took root and spread through the land.

The mountains were covered with its shadow, the cedars of God with its boughs.

It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by.

It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field.



God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted.
Men have burnt it with fire and destroyed it.
May they perish at the frown of your face.

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name.

God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.
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: ***Look, Lord, and answer quickly, for I am in distress.***

Ant. 2 ***See now that God is my salvation:
I have trust and no fear.***

I thank you, Lord: you were angry with me,
but your anger has passed, and you give me comfort.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he is my saviour.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples.
Declare the greatness of his name,
sing a psalm to the Lord!
For he has done glorious deeds:
make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of 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. Amen.***

All: ***See now that God is my salvation:
I have trust and no fear.***



Ant. 3 *The Lord fed us with finest wheat, he filled us with honey from the rock.*

Ring out your joy to God our strength,
shout in triumph to the God of Jacob.

Raise a song and sound the tumbrel,
the sweet-sounding harp and the lute;
blow the trumpet at the new moon,
when the moon is full, on our feast.

For this is Israel's law,
a command of the God of Jacob.
He imposed it as a rule on Joseph,
when he went out against the land of Egypt.

A voice I did not know said to me:
'I freed your shoulder from the burden;
your hands were freed from the load.
You called in distress and I saved you.

'I answered, concealed in the storm cloud;
at the waters of Meribah I tested you.
Listen, my people, to my warning.
O Israel, if only you would heed!

'Let there be no foreign god among you,
no worship of an alien god.
I am the Lord your God, who brought you from the land of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I will fill it.

'But my people did not heed my voice
and Israel would not obey,
so I left them in their stubbornness of heart *
to follow their own designs.

'Ó that my people would heed me,
that Israel would walk in my ways!
At once I would subdue their foes,
turn my hand against their enemies.

'The Lord's enemies would cringe at their feet
and their subjection would last for ever.
But Israel I would feed with finest wheat
and fill them with honey from the rock.'

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: *The Lord fed us with finest wheat, he filled us with honey from the rock.*



Scripture Reading

Hebrews 2:9-10

We have seen Jesus crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind. As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation.

Short Responsory

R, – You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.

You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood. **R.**

From every tribe and tongue and people and nation. **R,**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. **R,**

Canticle of Zechariah:

Benedictus

Ant. *I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.*

Benedictus

Stephen Somerville

1. Blessed be the Lord the God of Is - ra - el; he has visited his people and re - deemed them.
 2. He has raised up for us a migh - ty Saviour in the house of his ser - vant David.
 3. As he promised by the lips of Ho - ly men, those who were his prophets from of old.

4. A Saviour who would free us **from** our foes, from the hands of **all** who hate us.
5. So his love for our fathers **is** fulfilled, and his holy covenant remembered.
6. He swore to Abraham our father to grant us, that free from fear and saved from the hands **of** our foes, we might serve him in holiness and justice all the days of our life **in** his presence.
7. As for you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of God, **the** Most High, you shall go ahead of the Lord to prepare his **ways** before him.
8. To make known to his people **their** salvation, through forgiveness of **all** their sins.
9. The loving kindness of the heart **of** our God, who visits us like the dawn **from** on high.
10. He will give light to those in darkness, those who dwell in the shadow of death, and guide us into the **way** of peace.
11. Glory be to the Father and **to** the Son, and to the **Holy** Spirit.
12. As it was in the beginning, is now, and **ever** shall be, world without **end**, Amen.

All. *I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.*



Prayers and Intercessions

Let us humbly pray to Christ, the eternal priest, whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit to proclaim release for captives.

Response: Lord, have mercy on us.

You went up to Jerusalem to endure the passion and enter into glory;
lead your Church into the paschal feast of eternal life. **R,**
Your heart was pierced with a lance;
heal the wounds of our human weakness. **R,**
You made your cross the tree of life;
share your victory with all the baptised. **R,**
You gave salvation to the repentant thief;
pardon all our sins. **R,**

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to pray
Our Father...

Concluding Prayer and Dismissal

Love of you with our whole heart, Lord God, is holiness.
Increase, then, your gifts of divine grace in us,
so that, as in your Son's death
you made us hope for what we believe,
you may likewise, in his resurrection,
make us come to you, our final end.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

Hymn: Love is His Word

Love is His mark, love is His sign
Bread for our strength, wine for our joy
This is my body, this is my blood
Love, only love, is His sign

Love is His law, love is His word
Love of the Lord, Father and Word
Love of the Spirit, God ever one
Love, only love, is His word

***Richer than gold is the love of my Lord
Better than splendour and wealth***

