

**Friday 27 March 2020 - Friday of the 4th week of Lent - Vespers (Evening Prayer)**

**Introduction (without Invitatory)**

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**

1. Sole hope of all the world and Lord,  
bestower of the great reward,  
receive the prayers thy servants raise  
mixed with meet psalms and chants of praise.
2. And though our conscience doth proclaim  
our deep transgressions and our shame,  
cleanse us, O God, we humbly plead,  
from sins of thought and word and deed.
3. Our sins remember thou no more;  
forgive: thou art of mighty pow'r:  
so take upon thee, Lord, our care  
that pure in heart we make our prayer.
4. Our sins remember thou no more;  
forgive: thou art of mighty pow'r:  
so take upon thee, Lord, our care  
that pure in heart we make our prayer.

**Psalm 144 - The greatness and goodness of God**

“You, O Lord, are the One who was and who is, the Just One” (Rev 16:5)

*I will bless you day after day and tell of your wonderful deeds, O Lord.*

I will give you glory, O God my king,  
I will bless your name for ever.

**I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured.**

Age to age shall proclaim your works,  
shall declare your mighty deeds,  
shall speak of your splendour and glory,  
tell the tale of your wonderful works.

**They will speak of your terrible deeds,  
Recount your greatness and might.  
They will recall your abundant goodness;  
age to age shall ring out your justice.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

**All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God,**

to make known to men your mighty deeds  
and the glorious splendour of your reign.  
Yours is an everlasting kingdom;  
your rule lasts from age to age.

**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.**

*I will bless you day after day and tell of your wonderful deeds, O Lord.*

**Psalm 144**

*The eyes of all creatures look to you, Lord; you are close to all who call upon you.*

The Lord is faithful in all his words  
and loving in all his deeds.  
The Lord supports all who fall  
and raises all who are bowed down.

**The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.  
You open wide your hand,  
grant the desires of all who live.**

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts.

**He grants the desires of those who fear him,  
he hears their cry and he saves them.  
The Lord protects all who love him;  
but the wicked he will utterly destroy.**

Let me speak the praise of the Lord,  
let all mankind bless his holy name  
for ever, for ages unending.

**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.**

*The eyes of all creatures look to you, Lord; you are close to all who call upon you.*

#### **Canticle (Apocalypse 15) – A hymn of adoration**

*Your ways are just and true, King of all the ages.*

Great and wonderful are your deeds,  
O Lord God the Almighty!  
Just and true are your ways,  
O King of the ages!

**Who shall not fear and glorify your name, O Lord?  
For you alone are holy.  
All nations shall come and worship you,  
for your judgements have been revealed.**

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.

*Your ways are just and true, King of all the ages.*

#### **Reading - James 5:26,19-20**

Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, and this will cure you: the heartfelt prayer of a good man works very powerfully. My brothers, if one of you strays away from the truth, and another brings him back to it, he may be sure that anyone who can bring back a sinner from the wrong way that he has taken will be saving a soul from death and covering up a great number of sins.

#### **Short Responsory**

I said: 'Lord, have mercy on me.'  
– I said: 'Lord, have mercy on me.'

'Heal my soul, for I have sinned against you.'  
– I said: 'Lord, have mercy on me.'

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
– I said: 'Lord, have mercy on me.'

#### **Canticle (Magnificat) – My soul rejoices in the Lord**

*No one laid hands on Jesus, because his hour had not yet come.*

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

**The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.**

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

**He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.**

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons 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. Amen.**

*No one laid hands on Jesus, because his hour had not yet come.*

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us turn in prayer to the Saviour of all men. By dying he destroyed our death and by rising he restored our life.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*

Christ, our Redeemer, let us share in your passion by works of penance,  
let us attain the glory of your resurrection.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*

Grant us the protection of your Mother, the comforter of the afflicted,  
help us to extend to others the consolation you have given us.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*

Unite the faithful to your passion in times of trouble and distress  
and let the power of your salvation shine forth in their lives.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*

You humbled yourself even to accepting death, death on a cross;  
grant to your servants obedience and patience.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*  
Share with the dead your bodily glory;  
let us rejoice one day with them in the fellowship of the saints.  
– *Sanctify the people you redeemed by your blood.*

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.

Lord God, you have prepared fitting remedies for our weakness:  
grant that we may reach out gladly for your healing grace,  
and thereby live in accordance with your will.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and 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.**