

WEDNESDAY 29 JULY. EVENING PRAYER

GREETING

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you.

PREPARATION

Faithful God, who is known in Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we come before you now in worship and praise and thanksgiving. Open our hearts to receive you, our minds to learn of you, and our lips to praise you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PENITENCE

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness. Together, let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us:
Lord God, we have sinned against you; we have done evil in your sight. We are sorry and repent. Have mercy on us according to your love. Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin. Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

VERSICLES AND RESPONSES

O Lord, we call to you: come to us quickly.
Hear us when we cry to you.

Let our prayers rise up before you like incense.
Let our lifted hands be like an evening sacrifice.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever.
Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

A READING

St Mark 4:30-34

He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it

grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

ADDRESS

CANTICLE

Nunc Dimittis

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 Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PRAISE

Blessed are you, Lord God, King of the universe.
To you be glory and praise for ever.
From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.
To you be glory and praise for ever.
When the times had fully come you sent the Sun of Righteousness.
In him the fullness of your glory dwells. To you be glory and praise for ever.

PRAYERS

We pray to the Lord: in faith we pray.
We pray to you our God.

Silence is kept

That the rest of this day may be holy, peace full and full of your presence; in faith we pray.
We pray to you our God.

That we may hear and respond to your call to peace and justice; in faith we pray
We pray to you our God.

That you will sustain the faith and hope of those who are lonely, oppressed and anxious; in faith we pray
We pray to you our God.

That you will strengthen us in your service, and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom; in faith we pray
We pray to you our God.

God of mercy, you know us and love us and hear our prayer: keep us in the eternal fellowship of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

COLLECT

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING OUT

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:
and the day is almost over.

The darkness is not dark to you:
The night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:
and fill your church with your glory. Amen.