

**Evening Prayer in Lent
Friday, 24 February 2023**

Praying for Peace in Ukraine

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our cries, O Lord, according to your faithful love,
according to your judgement grant us peace.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,
that freed from the misery of sin and shame
we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
All Blessed be God for ever.

The following or another suitable hymn

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from earthborn passions set me free,
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me
with many a care opprest;
let me thy loving servant be,
and taste thy promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
nor let me go astray;
through darkness and perplexity
point thou the heavenly way.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see,
and share thy joy at last.

*George the Sinner, tr: A W Chatfield
(Tune: SM)*

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us and the people of
Ukraine, to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

Psalm 31

Refrain: *Into your hands I commend my spirit.*

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; ♦
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me; ♦
make haste to deliver me.

3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold; ♦
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.

4 Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me, ♦
for you are my strength.

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit, ♦
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth. *R*

6 I hate those who cling to worthless idols; ♦
I put my trust in the Lord.

7 I will be glad and rejoice in your mercy, ♦
for you have seen my affliction
and known my soul in adversity.

8 You have not shut me up in the hand of the enemy; ♦
you have set my feet in an open place. *R*

9 Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble; ♦
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
my soul and my body also.

10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; ♦
my strength fails me because of my affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
an object of dread to my acquaintances; ♦
when they see me in the street they flee from me.

12 I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind; ♦
I have become like a broken vessel.

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is on every side; ♦
they scheme together against me,
and plot to take my life. *R*

14 But my trust is in you, O Lord. ♦
I have said, 'You are my God.

15 My times are in your hand; ♦
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, ♦
and save me for your mercy's sake.'

17 Lord, let me not be confounded
for I have called upon you; ♦
but let the wicked be put to shame;
let them be silent in the grave.

18 Let the lying lips be put to silence ♦
that speak against the righteous
with arrogance, disdain and contempt. *R*

19 How abundant is your goodness, O Lord,
which you have laid up for those who fear you; ♦
which you have prepared in the sight of all
for those who put their trust in you.

20 You hide them in the shelter of your presence
from those who slander them; ♦
you keep them safe in your refuge from the strife of tongues.

21 Blessed be the Lord! ♦
For he has shown me his steadfast love
when I was as a city besieged.

22 I had said in my alarm,
'I have been cut off from the sight of your eyes.' ♦
Nevertheless, you heard the voice of my prayer
when I cried out to you. *R*

23 Love the Lord, all you his servants; ♦
for the Lord protects the faithful,
but repays to the full the proud.

24 Be strong and let your heart take courage, ♦
all you who wait in hope for the Lord.

Refrain: *Into your hands I commend my spirit.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, when war and pain besiege us
and hope is veiled in grief, hold us in your wounded
hands and make your face shine on us again,
for you are our Lord and God.*

**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.**

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

Isaiah 2: 1 - 5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

² In the last days

the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established
as the highest of the mountains;
it will be exalted above the hills,
and all nations will stream to it.

³ Many peoples will come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways,
so that we may walk in his paths."

The law will go out from Zion,
the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He will judge between the nations
and will settle disputes for many peoples.

They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Canticle

Refrain:

***All Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.***

1 Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, ♦
that you should follow in his steps.

2 He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips, ♦
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.

3 When he suffered, he did not threaten, ♦
but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.

4 Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, ♦
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

5 By his wounds, you have been healed,
for you were straying like sheep, ♦
but have now returned
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2.21b-25

**All 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.**

**All Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.**

Scripture Reading

The reading may be followed by a time of silence.

Mark 4: 35 - 41

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.'³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' ³⁹ He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no

faith?' ⁴¹ And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form, may follow

Forsake us not, O Lord;
be not far from those who call on you, O my God.

Forsake us not, O Lord;

be not far from those who call on you, O my God.

Make haste to help us,
O Lord of my salvation.

Be not far from us, O my God.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

Forsake us not, O Lord;

be not far from us, O my God.

from Psalm 38

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat

Refrain:

**Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.**

1My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

3He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.

4He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
and lifting up the lowly.

6He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.

7He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
to remember his promise of mercy,

8The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

***All* 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.**

***All* Come, let us return to the Lord,
for our God will richly pardon.**

Prayers

Intercessions are offered for peace

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer

(or)

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

Silence may be kept.

The Collect for Peace, from the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Translated by Svitlana and Yuliia Prykhodko

Lord, Jesus Christ, our God, destroying the mediation of enmity, granting true peace to Your people and calling peacemakers the blessed sons of God.

We pray to Thee: bless those who seek Your Kingdom and labour for its sake. Stir the minds and hearts of all who embark on peace for Your world. Give wisdom to those in authority, strengthen the will of the rulers of our people, enlighten their minds, and with wisdom, reasoning and great concern for the good of all people so that they will work in creating the desired world.

Hear Your people, O God. May orphans and widows be comforted, may they no longer mourn, but may they rejoice, seeing the world longed for. Soften the hearts of the hardened, create, even these, meekness to seek harmony and love. Teach them to understand and do Your will, which is salvation, love, peace and unity of all people. Send a heavenly blessing to our country Ukraine, authorities, army and all its people, the intercession of Your Blessed Mother and all Your saints.

You are the King of the world, and there is no limit to Your peace. Glory to You, and thanksgiving, and worship be sent forth, with Your Father without beginning, and Your Most Holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and forever and ever. Amen.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

***All 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.***

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

(or)

Trusting in the compassion of God,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**All 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.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

May God our Redeemer show us peace and love.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.