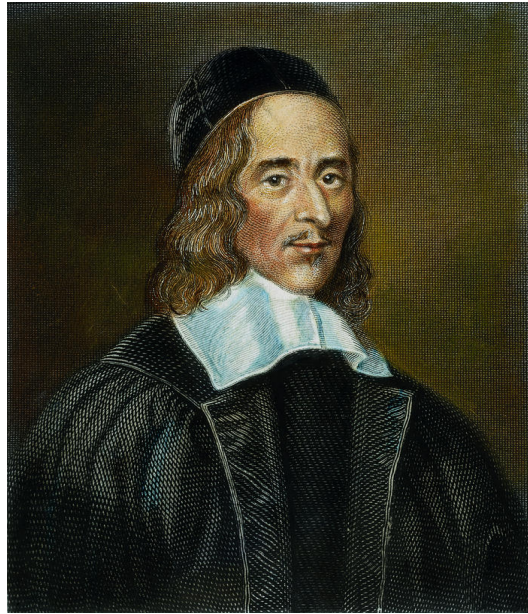


*Morning Prayer: Lent
Friday, 27 February 2026
George Herbert, Priest, Poet, 1633*



Preparation

O Lord, open our lips

Alland our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

Allaccording to your judgement give us life.

One or more of the following is said or sung:

this or another prayer of thanksgiving

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of our sin,
your light breaks forth like the dawn
and your healing springs up for deliverance.
As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,
sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
and open our lips to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

AllBlessed be God for ever.

a suitable hymn, or A Song of Penitence

1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion
blot out my offences.

2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

3 For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me.

4 Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,

5 So that you are justified in your sentence
and righteous in your judgement.

6 Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.

7 Give me again the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your gracious spirit;

8 Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked
and sinners shall return to you.

9 Deliver me from my guilt, O God,
the God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

Psalm 51.1-5, 12-15

**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.**

This opening prayer may be said

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Psalm 22

1My God, my God, why have you forsaken me,
and are so far from my salvation,
from the words of my distress?

2O my God, I cry in the daytime,
but you do not answer;
and by night also, but I find no rest.

3Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

4Our forebears trusted in you;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

5They cried out to you and were delivered;
they put their trust in you and were not confounded.

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

6But as for me, I am a worm and no man,
scorned by all and despised by the people.

7All who see me laugh me to scorn;
they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

8'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'

9But it is you that took me out of the womb
and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

10On you was I cast ever since I was born;
you are my God even from my mother's womb.

11Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand
and there is none to help.

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

12Mighty oxen come around me;
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.

13They gape upon me with their mouths,
as it were a ramping and a roaring lion.

14I am poured out like water;
all my bones are out of joint;
my heart has become like wax
melting in the depths of my body.

15My mouth is dried up like a potsherd;
my tongue cleaves to my gums;
you have laid me in the dust of death.

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

16For the hounds are all about me;
the pack of evildoers close in on me;
they pierce my hands and my feet.

17I can count all my bones;
they stand staring and looking upon me.

18They divide my garments among them;
they cast lots for my clothing.

19Be not far from me, O Lord;
you are my strength; hasten to help me.

20Deliver my soul from the sword,
my poor life from the power of the dog.

21Save me from the lion's mouth,
from the horns of wild oxen.
You have answered me!

Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

22I will tell of your name to my people;
in the midst of the congregation will I praise you.

23Praise the Lord, you that fear him;
O seed of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, O seed of Israel.

24For he has not despised nor abhorred the suffering of the poor;
neither has he hidden his face from them;
but when they cried to him he heard them.

25From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
I will perform my vows
in the presence of those that fear you.

26The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;
their hearts shall live for ever.

Refrain:Be not far from me, O Lord.

27All the ends of the earth
shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

28For the kingdom is the Lord's
and he rules over the nations.

29How can those who sleep in the earth
bow down in worship,
or those who go down to the dust kneel before him?

30He has saved my life for himself;
my descendants shall serve him;
this shall be told of the Lord for generations to come.

31They shall come and make known his salvation,
to a people yet unborn,
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it.

Refrain:Be not far from me, O Lord.

*Restless with grief and fear,
the abandoned turn to you:
in every hour of trial,
good Lord, deliver us,
O God most holy, God most strong,
whose wisdom is the cross of Christ.*

**AllGlory 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.**

Genesis 42.29-end

When they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had happened to them, saying, 'The man, the lord of the land, spoke harshly to us, and charged us with spying on the land. But we said to him, "We are honest men, we are not spies. We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest is now with our father in the land of Canaan." Then the man, the lord of the land, said to us, "By this I shall know that you are honest men: leave one of your brothers with me, take grain for the famine of your households, and go your way. Bring your youngest brother to me, and I shall know that you are not spies but honest men. Then I will release your brother to you, and you may trade in the land." '

As they were emptying their sacks, there in each one's sack was his bag of money. When they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were dismayed. And their father Jacob said to them, 'I am the one you have bereaved of children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and now you would take Benjamin. All this has happened to me!' Then Reuben said to his father, 'You may kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you. Put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you.' But he said, 'My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should come to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my grey hairs with sorrow to Sheol.'

Canticle

1 Lord almighty and God of our ancestors,
you who made heaven and earth in all their glory:

2 All things tremble with awe at your presence,
before your great and mighty power.

3 Immeasurable and unsearchable is your promised mercy,
for you are God, Most High.

***All* Full of compassion and mercy and love
is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

4 You are full of compassion, long-suffering and very merciful,
and you relent at human suffering.

5 O God, according to your great goodness,
you have promised forgiveness for repentance
to those who have sinned against you.

6 The sins I have committed against you
are more in number than the sands of the sea.

***All* Full of compassion and mercy and love
is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

7 I am not worthy to look up to the height of heaven,
because of the multitude of my iniquities.

8 And now I bend the knee of my heart before you,
imploring your kindness upon me.

9 I have sinned, O God, I have sinned,
and I acknowledge my transgressions.

***All* Full of compassion and mercy and love
is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

10 Unworthy as I am, you will save me,
according to your great mercy.

11For all the host of heaven sings your praise,
and your glory is for ever and ever.

**All Full of compassion and mercy and love
is God, the Most High, the Almighty.**

Manasseh 1a, 2, 4, 6, 7a, b, 9a, c, 11, 12, 14b, 15b

**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.**

Scripture Reading

Galatians 5.16-end

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

All O my God, in you I trust.

You are the God of my salvation,

All To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

In you I hope all the day long.

All O my God, in you I trust.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

All To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

O my God, in you I trust.

from Psalm 25

Gospel Canticle

1Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.

2He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

3Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.

**All I will give you shepherds after my own heart
who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.**

5This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

**All I will give you shepherds after my own heart
who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.**

9In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**All I will give you shepherds after my own heart
who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.**

Luke 1.68-79

**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.**

Prayers

In every age you have raised up holy men and women
to reflect the light of Christ and to teach us the way of holiness.

We thank you for those who have been teachers in the school of Christ:
give understanding to those who study the faith that the Church has handed on,
and clarity to those who communicate the gospel in a changing world ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have been shepherds of your people:
give a pastoral heart to pastors and deacons,
and the needful gifts to all your people in their ministry ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have been Christian rulers in the world,
and for those who carried the good news to lands where it had not been before:
give wisdom to all who have power and influence among the nations,
and establish God's sovereignty among people of every race ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those whom you have called to live in community:
establish mutual love among those drawn into fellowship in your service,
and bless with Christ's presence all the communities to which we relate ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have lived out their vocation in family life:
give your grace to all who nurture children
and all who care for the aged,
and enfold in your love all your sons and daughters ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for those who have brought wholeness through the medicine of the gospel:
give skill to all who minister healing and reconciliation in your name,
and comfort all who cry out to you from any sort of distress ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

We thank you for the noble army of martyrs
by the shedding of whose blood the Church has been enriched:
keep under your protection those who are persecuted for

the cause of Christ,
and acknowledge, we pray,
those who have passed through death trusting your promises ...
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Hasten, Lord, the day when people will come from east and west,
from north and south,
and sit at table in your kingdom,
and we shall see your Son in his glory.

Feel free to turn on your microphone and offer short prayers. Silence is also welcome and meaningful

The Collect of the day is said

King of glory, king of peace,
who called your servant George Herbert
from the pursuit of worldly honours
to be a priest in the temple of his God and king:
grant us also the grace to offer ourselves
with singleness of heart in humble obedience to your service;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

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.**

The Conclusion

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

All Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.