

The Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

The Hymn to the Light

**O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,
in you God's gracious glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is God,
and blest are you, God's holy Son.**

Now sunset comes but light shines forth;
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Author, Word and Spirit: God
who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise,
O Word of God, life-giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth
and in the highest heaven adored.

Common Praise #14

Psalm 119

- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:**
- 16 "The mighty hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the mighty hand of the Lord is exalted!
the mighty hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.**
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.**
- 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; *
those who are righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to the Lord who answered me *
and has become my salvation.**
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, ***

and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Hosannah, Lord, hosannah! *
Lord, send us now success.

26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; *
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 God is the Lord and has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.

28 "You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you."

29 Give thanks to the Lord who is good; *
the mercy of the Lord endures for ever.

**Glory to God, Source of all being, eternal Word and Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

Luke 7:36-50

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, 'If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.' Jesus spoke up and said to him, 'Simon, I have something to say to you.' 'Teacher,' he replied, 'speak.' 'A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?' Simon answered, 'I suppose the one for whom he cancelled the greater debt.' And Jesus said to him, 'You have judged rightly.' Then turning towards the woman, he said to Simon, 'Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.' Then he said to her, 'Your sins are forgiven.' But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, 'Who is this who even forgives sins?' And he said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God

All are invited to share a word or a phrase that stood out, or to offer a short thought evoked by the reading.

The Prayers

All are invited to name their intercessions and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.

After a period of silence the following collect is said.

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Being made one by the power of the Spirit and gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

May the Lord of Peace give us peace in all ways and at all times. **Amen.**