**Wednesday**

**The Preparation**

Presider O Lord, open our lips

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise**

Presider Pour your love into our hearts, O God

**All Through the Holy Spirit you have given to us**

**Glory to God, source of all being,**

**Eternal word and Holy Spirit:**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,**

**And shall be forever. Amen.**

**Alleluia!**

**The Opening Prayer**

Presider 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 forever. Amen

**The Word of God**

**119**

49 Remember your word to your servant, \*  
because you have given me hope.  
  
50 This is my comfort in my trouble, \*  
that your promise gives me life.  
  
51 The proud have derided me cruelly, \*  
but I have not turned from your law.  
  
52 When I remember your judgments of old, \*  
O Lord, I take great comfort.  
  
53 I am filled with a burning rage, \*  
because of the wicked who forsake your law.  
  
54 Your statutes have been like songs to me \*  
wherever I have lived as a stranger.  
  
55 I remember your Name in the night, O Lord, \*  
and dwell upon your law.  
  
56 This is how it has been with me, \*  
because I have kept your commandments.

## **Gospel**

## Luke 11:37-52

While he was speaking, a Pharisee invited him to dine with him; so he went in and took his place at the table. The Pharisee was amazed to see that he did not first wash before dinner. Then the Lord said to him, ‘Now you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and of the dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. You fools! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? So give for alms those things that are within; and see, everything will be clean for you.

‘But woe to you Pharisees! For you tithe mint and rue and herbs of all kinds, and neglect justice and the love of God; it is these you ought to have practised, without neglecting the others. Woe to you Pharisees! For you love to have the seat of honour in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the market-places. Woe to you! For you are like unmarked graves, and people walk over them without realizing it.’

One of the lawyers answered him, ‘Teacher, when you say these things, you insult us too.’ And he said, ‘Woe also to you lawyers! For you load people with burdens hard to bear, and you yourselves do not lift a finger to ease them. Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets whom your ancestors killed. So you are witnesses and approve of the deeds of your ancestors; for they killed them, and you build their tombs. Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, “I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute”, so that this generation may be charged with the blood of all the prophets shed since the foundation of the world, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be charged against this generation. Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you did not enter yourselves, and you hindered those who were entering.’

Gospel Canticle

Refrain: **You have looked with favour upon your lowly servant:**

**From this day, all generations will call her blessed.**

**Magnificat**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on his humble servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed,

the Almighty has done great things for me,

and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear Him

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,

and has lifted up the humble.

He has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

the promise he made to our fathers,

to Abraham and his children for ever.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.**

**Amen**

Refrain: **You have looked with favour upon your lowly servant:**

**From this day, all generations will call her blessed.**

**The Litany**

Presider Let us give glory to God on high,

Who from his fullness have received grace upon grace.

For the holy Church of God throughout the world,

That with one heart we may rejoice in the word made flesh,

Let us pray in the Spirit

**All God of love, hear our prayer**

Presider For good will in the hearts of all; and on earth peace,

Let us pray in the Spirit

**All God of love, hear our prayer**

Presider For the poor, the outcast and the homeless,

The lonely and the unloved, Let us pray in the Spirit

**All God of love, hear our prayer**

Presider For all who have gone before us,

Whose hope was in the Word made flesh, Let us pray in the Spirit

**All God of love, hear our prayer**

Presider (Any individual prayers…)

**God of love, hear our prayer**

Presider With the blessed Virgin Mary,

Saint John and all the host of heaven,

let our voices rise to praise God’s glory

**All God of love, hear our prayer**

**The Collect**

Presider Almighty God,

Who wonderfully created us in your own image

And yet more wonderfully restored us

In your Son Jesus Christ:

Grant that, as he came to share our human nature,

So we may be partakers of his divine glory;

Who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and forever. Amen.

Presider As Our Saviour Christ taught us we are bold to say:

**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.**

**Closing Responses**

The Blessing

**All The Lord bless us and preserve us from all evil,**

**And keep us in eternal life. Amen.**

Presider Let us bless the Lord

**All Thanks be to God.**