



Evening Prayer - Advent

The Service of Light

Officiant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Responder Thanks be to God.

Officiant Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Responder A light no darkness can extinguish.

O Gracious Light *Tallis's Canon*

Officiant O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ, in you the Father's glory shone. Immortal, holy, blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.

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

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

Thanksgiving

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Responder It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Officiant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe, creator of light and darkness. In this holy season, when the sun's light is swallowed up by the growing darkness of the night, you renew your promise to reveal among us the splendour of your glory, enfleshed and visible to us in Jesus Christ your Son. Through the prophets you teach us to hope for his reign of peace. Through the outpouring of his Spirit, you open our blindness to the glory of his presence. Strengthen us in our weakness. Support us in our stumbling efforts to do your will and free our tongues to sing your praise. For to you all honour and blessing are due, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Officiant O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;

Responder Hear my voice when I cry to you.

Officiant Let my prayer be set forth in your sight as incense,

Responder The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Officiant Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

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

The Psalm

Reader...

At the end of the psalm

Reader Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

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

The Proclamation of the Word

A reading from . . .

After each lesson

Reader The word of the Lord.

Officiant Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to . . .

Officiant Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then at the conclusion of the Gospel,

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

Officiant Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Affirmation of Faith

Officiant Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.

This is the first and the great commandment.

The second is like it:

Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Intercession or thanksgiving may be offered for

*the Church
the Queen and all in authority the world
the local community
those in need
the departed.*

Advent litany may be selected from p 119. A thanksgiving litany and the forms of General Thanksgiving are found on pp. 128–130. Other prayers are found on pp. 675–684. These prayers and thanksgivings may be modified in accordance with local need, or extempore forms of prayer may be used.

The Collect

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

Responder **Thanks be to God.**

The officiant may conclude with one of the following:

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.
Amen.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

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