

Thursday Vespers for January 14, 2021

The Preparation

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

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
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever. Amen.**

A Hymn for Evening

Day is done but love unfailing dwells ever here;
Shadows fall, but hope, prevailing, calms every fear.
God, our maker, none for saking, take our hearts, of love's own making;
Watch our sleeping, guard our waking, be always near.

Dark descends, but light unending shines through our night;
You are with us, ever lending new strength to sight.
One in love, your truth confessing, one in hope of heaven's blessing,
May we see, in love's possessing, love's endless light!

Eyes will close, but you unsleeping watch by our side;
Death may come, in love's safe keeping still we abide.
God of love, all evil quelling, sin forgiving, fear dispelling,
Stay with us, our heart's indwelling, this eventide.

Ar Hyd Y Nos Common Praise #20

Psalm 95 *Venite, exultemus*

- 1** Come, let us sing to the Lord; *
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- 2** Let us come before the presence of the Lord with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.
- 3** For you, O Lord, are a great God, *
and a great sovereign above all gods.
- 4** In your hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are yours also.
- 5** The sea is yours, for you made it, *
and your hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6** Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

7 For you are our God,
and we are the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. *

Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

8 “**Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, *
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah,
when they tempted me.**

9 They put me to the test, *
though they had seen my works.

10 **Forty years long I detested that generation and said, *
‘This people are wayward in their hearts;
they do not know my ways.’**

11 So I swore in my wrath, *
‘They shall not enter into my rest.’”

**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.**

Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to [Jesus] begging him, and kneeling he said to him, ‘If you choose, you can make me clean.’ Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, ‘I do choose. Be made clean!’ Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, ‘See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.’ But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

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.

Kindle in our hearts, O God,
the flame of love which never ceases,
that it may burn in us, giving light to others.
May we shine for ever in your temple,
set on fire with your eternal light,

even your Son Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our Redeemer. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Believing the promises of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray
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.
Thanks be to God.