

Evening Prayer¹

Call to Prayer

All: + In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Leader: The LORD is in his holy temple;

All: Let all the earth be silent before him.²

Leader: May my prayer be set before you like incense;

All: May the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice.³

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope. May we know you as you truly are, we ask for the glory of your name. *(All)* Amen.⁴

Song(s)

Confession of Sin

Leader: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence (allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart)

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;

All: According to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Leader: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

All: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

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

All: So that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.

Leader: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

All: And renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Leader: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

All: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.⁵

Silence (bring your sins to the cross and give them to Jesus)

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.⁶

¹ Found in *Ancient Wells* by George and Hanna Miley, used with permission

² *Habakkuk 2:20*

³ *Psalms 141:2*

⁴ Adapted from *Book of Common Prayer*

⁵ From *Psalms 51* and *1 John 1*

⁶ *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 398

Apostles Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic⁷ Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.⁸

Praying the Psalm(s)

Readers: Each in turn reads one verse from their own Bible until the psalm is completed.

Reading(s)

Spontaneous Thanksgivings & Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Song(s)

Methodist Covenant Prayer

All: I am no longer my own, but Thine. Put me to what Thou wilt, rank me with whom Thou wilt; put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for Thee or laid aside for Thee; let me be exalted for Thee, or brought low for Thee; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to Thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Thou art mine, and I am Thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.⁹

Concluding Prayer of the Church

Leader: Lord, lover of mankind, fill us with the love your Spirit gives. May we live in a manner worthy of our calling; make us witnesses of your truth to all men; and help us work to bring all believers together in the unity of faith and the fellowship of peace.

All: Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.¹⁰

Nunc dimittis

Leader: "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all people, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."¹¹

All: + In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.

⁷ The word "catholic" in the creed does not refer to the Roman Catholic church exclusively, but means "universal".

⁸ *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 96

⁹ *Celtic Daily Prayer*, p. 49

¹⁰ *The Liturgy of the Hours*

¹¹ *Luke 2:29-32*