



‘But many who are first shall be last, and the last will be first...’

Evening Prayer during Creation-tide



Newbury, St George & St John

**Welcome to Evening Prayer
with St George the Martyr, Wash Common and
St John the Evangelist, Newbury.**

From earliest times, Christians gathered at regular hours during each day and night to respond to God's word with praise on behalf of all creation and with intercession for the salvation of the world.

We invite you to participate with us in this service as we close the day in prayer.

Please put your settings on mute for the service until the dismissal where we will all respond.



Newbury, St George & St John

The Greeting

A candle is lit.

The officiant says:

The Lord is my light and my salvation:
my God shall make my darkness to be bright.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

As darkness falls you renew your promise
to reveal among us the light of your presence.

By the light of Christ, your living Word,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
that we may walk as children of light
and sing your praise throughout the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessed be God for ever.

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.

The Word of God

A Song of the Blessed

Refrain:

**Rejoice and be glad
for you are the light of the world,
and great is your reward in heaven.**

1 Blessed are the poor in spirit, •
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2 Blessed are those who mourn, •
for they shall be comforted.

3 Blessed are the meek, •
for they shall inherit the earth.

4 Blessed are those who hunger
and thirst after righteousness, •
for they shall be satisfied.

5 Blessed are the merciful, •
for they shall obtain mercy.

6 Blessed are the pure in heart, •
for they shall see God.

7 Blessed are the peacemakers, •
for they shall be called children of God.

8 Blessed are those who suffer persecution
for righteousness' sake, •
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5.3-10

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.
Amen.**

**Rejoice and be glad
for you are the light of the world,
and great is your reward in heaven.**

Second Scripture Reading

Gospel Reading *Mark 10. 17-31*

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.”’ He said to him, ‘Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.’ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’

Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

Short Reflective Homily

Followed by a period of reflection

This responsory may follow

Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
and afterwards receive me with glory.**

For I am always with you;
you hold me by my right hand.

And afterwards receive me with glory.

from Psalm 73

The Lord's Prayer *is said*

As our Saviour has 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.
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.**

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is normally said,

Refrain:

**Remember your promise of mercy,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; •
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; •
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

3 He has mercy on those who fear him, •
from generation to generation.

4 He has shown strength with his arm •
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones •
and lifting up the lowly.

6 He has filled the hungry with good things •
and sent the rich away empty.

7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, •
to remember his promise of mercy,

8 The promise made to our ancestors, •
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

Closing Responses

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
a light no darkness can quench.

Stay with us Lord, it is evening:
and the day is almost over.

The darkness is not dark to you:
the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness:
and fill your church with your glory.

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.



Newbury, St George & St John