

Evening Prayer -- 3

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of light and darkness, to you be glory and praise for ever.

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

May your word be a lantern to our feet and a light upon our path that we may behold your coming among us.

Strengthen us in our stumbling weakness and free our tongues to sing your praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

A Song of Mercy and Truth

Creator of the stars of night, thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesu, Saviour of us all, regard thy servants when they call.

Thou, grieving at the bitter cry of all creation doomed to die,
didst come to save a ruined race with healing gifts of heavenly grace.

Thou camest, Bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to evening-tide,
proceeding from a virgin shrine, the Son of Man, yet Lord divine.

At thy great name, exalted now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow,
and things in heaven and earth shall own that thou art Lord and King alone.

To thee, O holy One, we pray our judge in that tremendous day,
preserve us, while we dwell below, from every onslaught of the foe.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee, whose advent sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore, and Spirit blest, for evermore.

Latin, tr: J M Neale (Tune: LM)

Surely I am coming soon. Come, Lord Jesus!

- 1 'Behold, I am coming soon', says the Lord,
'and bringing my reward with me,
to give to everyone according to their deeds.
- 2 'I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the first and the last, the beginning and the end.'
- 3 Blessed are those who do God's commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life,
and may enter into the city through the gates.
- 4 'I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you,
with this testimony for all the churches.
- 5 'I am the root and the offspring of David,
I am the bright morning star.'
- 6 'Come!' say the Spirit and the Bride;
'Come!' let each hearer reply.
- 7 Come forward, you who are thirsty,
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift.



**Lord Jesus, you are the one who is to come, the one whom we await with long-
ing hearts.**

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
he has looked with favor 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



Intercessions

Our Father:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

