

**MORNING PRAYER FOR HOLY
THURSDAY**

Introduction:

Leader: O God, come to our aid.

All: O Lord, make haste to help us.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son Amen.

Psalm 79 (80)

Leader: Look, Lord, and answer quickly, for I am in distress.

Shepherd of Israel, listen –

you who take Joseph as your flock.

Shine out before Ephraim and

Benjamin and Manasseh –

you who are enthroned upon the cherubim.

Awaken your power and come to us,
come to us and save us.

Bring us back, O God:

let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Lord God of hosts –

**how long will your anger endure
against the prayers of your people?**

**You have given us tears for our bread,
abundance of tears for us to drink.**

You have made us a mockery among our neighbours,

and our enemies laugh at us.

Bring us back, O God of hosts:

let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

**You brought a vine out of Egypt;
planted it, and drove out the nations.**

**You cleared the ground all about it,
made firm its roots; and it filled the land.**

Its shade covered mountains,
its boughs shaded the cedars of God;
its leaves spread as far as the sea,
its shoots as far as the River.

**So why did you destroy its wall,
so that anyone could pluck its fruit,
whoever was passing by?**

**The wild boar of the forest broke it,
every wild beast could graze off it.**

Turn back, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven and tend this vine.
Protect the vine, for your right hand
planted it;

and the son of man, whom you made strong.

**The vine is burnt and dug up;
and they too will perish when they see
you rebuke them.**

Stretch out your hand over your chosen one

**over the son of man, whom you made strong –
and we will not forsake you, and you
will give us life;**

and we will call on your name.

Bring us back, Lord God of hosts:

let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son Amen.

Leader: Look, Lord, and answer quickly, for I am in distress.

Canticle

Isaiah 12

*Leader: See now that God is my salvation:
I have trust and no fear.*

**I will praise you, Lord, for when you
were angry with me**

**you calmed your rage and turned
again to console me.**

Behold, God is my salvation:

I will be confident, I will not fear;
for the Lord is my strength and my joy,
he has become my saviour.

**And you will rejoice as you draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

And then you will say:

**“Praise the Lord and call upon his
name.**

Tell the peoples what he has done,
remember always the greatness of his
name.

Sing to the Lord, for he has done great
things:

let this be known throughout the world.

**Cry out with joy and gladness, you who
dwell in Zion.**

**Great in your midst is the Holy One of
Israel.”**

***All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
Amen.***

*Leader: See now that God is my salvation:
I have trust and no fear.*

Psalm 80

*Leader: The Lord fed us with finest wheat,
he filled us with honey from the rock.*

**Shout with joy to God our helper,
rejoice in the God of Jacob.**

**Take up the song, sound the timbrel,
play on the lyre and the harp.**

At the start of the month, sound the
trumpet,

at the full moon, at our festival.

For this is the law for Israel,
the decree of the God of Jacob.

**He gave it to Joseph, for a witness,
when he went out of the land of Egypt;
with words that had never been heard:**

**“I freed his back from burdens;
his hands were freed from heavy loads.**

In your tribulation you called on me and I
freed you,

I heard you from the heart of the storm,
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

Listen, my people, and I will put my
case –

Israel, if you would only hear me!

You shall not have any strange god,

**you shall not worship the gods of foreigners.
For I am the Lord, your God,
who led you out of the land of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth and I shall fill it.**

But my people did not hear my voice:
Israel did not turn to me.
So I let them go on in the hardness of their hearts,
and follow their own counsels.

**If my people had heard me,
if only they had walked in my ways –
I would swiftly have crushed their enemies,
stretched my hand over those who persecuted them.**

The enemies of the Lord would be overcome with weakness,
Israel's would be the good fortune, for ever:

I would feed them full of richest wheat
and give them honey from the rock,
to their heart's content.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
Amen.**

Leader: The Lord fed us with finest wheat,
he filled us with honey from the rock.

Reading:

Reader: **Hebrews 2:9-10**

Short Responsory

Leader: You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.

All:– You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.

Leader: From every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

All:– You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.

Leader: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

All: – You have redeemed us, Lord, by your blood.

Canticle

Benedictus

Leader: I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
for he has come to his people and brought about their redemption.**

He has raised up the sign of salvation
in the house of his servant David,
as he promised through the mouth of the holy ones, his prophets through the ages:
to rescue us from our enemies
and all who hate us,

**to take pity on our fathers,
to remember his holy covenant
and the oath he swore to Abraham our father,**

**that he would give himself to us,
that we could serve him without fear
– freed from the hands of our enemies –
in uprightness and holiness before him,**

for all of our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High:

for you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare his path,
**to let his people know their salvation,
so that their sins may be forgiven.
Through the bottomless mercy of our God,**

one born on high will visit us
to give light to those who walk in darkness,

who live in the shadow of death;
to lead our feet in the path of peace.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son

**and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.**

Amen.

Leader: I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

Prayers and intercessions

Reader: Let us humbly pray to Christ, the eternal priest, whom the Father anointed with the Holy Spirit to proclaim release for captives.

All:– Lord, have mercy on us.

Reader: You went up to Jerusalem to endure the passion and enter into glory;
lead your Church into the paschal feast of eternal life.

All: – Lord, have mercy on us.

Your heart was pierced with a lance;
heal the wounds of our human weakness.

All– Lord, have mercy on us.

You made your cross the tree of life;
share your victory with all the baptized.

All– Lord, have mercy on us.

You gave salvation to the repentant thief;
pardon all our sins.

All– Lord, have mercy on us.

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,

Final Prayer:

Reader: Love of you with our whole heart, Lord God, is holiness.

Increase, then, your gifts of divine grace in us,

so that, as in your Son's death

you made us hope for what we believe,
you may likewise, in his resurrection,
make us come to you, our final end.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest: The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **All: Amen**