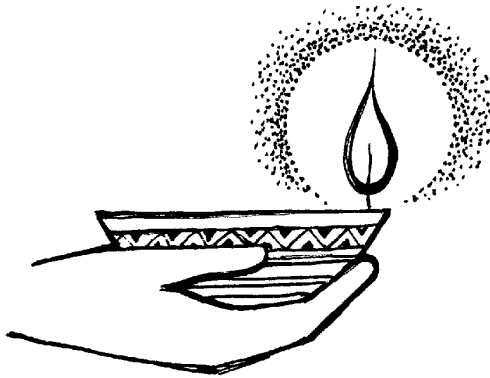


KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL



EVENING PRAYER

VESPERS

WELCOME

You, O Lord, are my lamp;
you turn our darkness into light.

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

The Officiant welcomes all to this liturgy.

SENTENCE

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:
who is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.



HYMN (based on Phos Hilaron) – tune: St Clement

text: Carl P Daw

O Light whose splendour thrills and gladdens
with radiance brighter than the sun,
pure gleam of God's unending glory
O Jesus, blest Anointed One;

as twilight hovers near at sunset,
and lamps are lit, and children nod,
in evening hymns we lift our voices
to praise the true and living God.

In all life's brilliant, timeless moments,
let faithful voices sing your praise,
Incarnate God, our Life-bestower,
whose glory lightens endless days.

PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,
ruler of the universe!
Your word brings on the dusk of evening,
your wisdom creates both night and day.
You determine the cycles of time,
arrange the succession of the seasons,
and establish the stars in their heavenly courses.
Lord of the starry hosts is your name.
Living and eternal God, rule over us always.
Blessed be the Lord, whose word makes evening fall.
Amen.

Let my prayer be as incense to you:
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.



PSALM 141 – tune: *St Columba*

paraphrase: Michael Perry

O Lord, come quickly when I call;
receive my prayer with favour,
fair as the evening sacrifice,
as incense sweet to savour.

O Lord, I'll seek your way to go –
but strengthen me to choose it;
your oil of grace anoints my head –
my head will not refuse it.

My eyes are fixed on you, O Lord,
though dangers yet surround me;
in life your love will be my rock,
and death shall not confound me.

PSALM

The Psalm will be sung by a cantor.



PRAYER

Lord, teach us the silence of humility,
the silence of wisdom,
the silence of love,
the silence that speaks without words,
the silence of faith.

Lord, teach us
to silence our own hearts and minds
that we may listen
for the movement of your Holy Spirit,
and feel your presence
in the depths of our being.

A short time of silence will follow.



READING

SIT

A passage of Scripture is read and may be followed by a short meditation.



A short time of silence will follow.

CANTICLE – The Magnificat

text: © 1993, Owen Alstott; music: © 1993, Bernadette Farrell

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
my spirit sings to God, my saving God,
who on this day above all others favoured me
and raised me up, a light for all to see.

Through me great deeds will God make manifest,
and all the earth will come to call me blest.
Unbounded love and mercy sure will I proclaim
for all who know and praise God's holy name.

God's mighty arm, protector of the just,
will guard the weak and raise them from the dust.
But mighty kings will swiftly fall from thrones corrupt.
The strong brought low, the lowly lifted up.

Soon will the poor and hungry of the earth
be richly blest, be given greater worth.
And Israel, as once foretold to Abraham,
will live in peace throughout the promised land.

All glory be to God, Creator blest,
to Jesus Christ, God's love made manifest,
and to the Holy Spirit, gentle Comforter,
all glory be, both now and ever more.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Prayers of Intercession may be offered here.
They conclude with the Intercession Litany:*

In peace let us pray to the Lord...

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That all we have done this day
and the people we have met may bring us closer to you:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That we may be forgiven our sins and offences:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That we hear and respond to your call to peace and justice:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That you will sustain the faith and hope of the weary,
the lonely, and the oppressed:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That you will strengthen us in your service,
and fill our hearts with longing for your kingdom:
we pray to you, O Lord.

short silence

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**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.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

ANTHEM

An anthem will be sung by a cantor.

PRAYER

Lord,
it is night.

The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in your presence.

It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.

The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives
rest in you.

The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new joys,
new possibilities.

In your name we pray.
Amen.

BLESSING

May God bless us
in our sleep with rest,
in our dreams with vision,
in our waking with a calm mind,
in our soul with the friendship of the Holy Spirit
this night and every night.

And wherever you go, may the blessing of God:
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit,
be with you,
those you love
and for whom you pray,
this night and always.
Amen.

