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Grace, mercy and peace

from God the Father, and Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Timothy 1.2

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.

2 *The Opening Canticle, the Priase of God's Servants*

Come now, praise the Lord, all you servants of the Lord:

you that stand by night in the house of the Lord.

Lift up your hands in the holy place and praise the Lord:

May the Lord bless you from Zion,

the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Psalms 134

3 *The Opening Prayer*

The day is now past and the night is at hand.

Let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

Father of lights, receive the prayer and praise we offer you as our evening sacrifice; make us a light for all the world, delivered by your goodness from all the works of darkness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

Amen.

The Psalms as appointed.

PSALM 23

1 *The LORD is my shepherd;*

I shall not be in want.

2 *He makes me lie down in green pastures,*

and leads me beside still waters.

3 *He revives my soul;*

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 *Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 *You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;*

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 *Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,*

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

5 *A pause is observed*

Lord of life, by the power of your resurrection, deliver us from all selfishness and bring us to the fullness of your joy; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

6 *One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.*

JOHN 10.1-10

JESUS said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn, or

May your word live in us

and bear much fruit to your glory.

7 The Canticle, The Song of Mary (Magnificat)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:

my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

Who has looked with favour on his lowly servant:

from this day all generations will call me blessed;

The Almighty has done great things for me:

and holy is his name.

God has mercy on those who fear him:

from generation to generation.

The Lord has shown strength with his arm:

and scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones:

and lifting up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things:

and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel:

to remember the promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our forebears:

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.47–55

8 The Apostles' Creed may be said.

9 The Prayers

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy.

10 The Lord's Prayer and the Collect of the Day

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.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,

the power and the glory are yours

now and forever. Amen.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

11 Intercessions and Thanksgivings may be made according to local custom and need.

12 The Evening Collect

Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night: that we, who are wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world, may rest on your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, equip us with everything good that we may do his will, to whom be glory for ever. **Amen.**

see Hebrews 13.20, 21