



1

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.**

4 *The Psalms as appointed.*

PSALM 85.1–2, 8–13

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord,  
*you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.*

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people  
*and blotted out all their sins.*

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,  
*for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to him.*

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him,  
*that his glory may dwell in our land.*

10 Mercy and truth have met together;  
*righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth,  
*and righteousness shall look down from heaven.*

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,  
*and our land will yield its increase.*

13 Righteousness shall go before him,  
*and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.*

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.**

MARK 1.1–8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

*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.**

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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