

EVENING PRAYER FOR PARENTS

Introit Hymn:

The King Of Love , my Shepherd is ,
Whose goodness faileth never ,;
I , nothing lack if i am His
And He is mine forever .

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth ,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth .

Perverse and foolish oft i strayed ,
But yet in love He sought me ,
And on His shoulder gently laid ,
And home rejoicing brought me .

In death's dark vale i fear no ill
With Thee , dear Lord , beside me ,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still ,
Thy cross before to guide me .

Thou spread'st a table in my sight ,
Thy unction grace bestoweth ;
And O what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth !

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never ;
Good Shepherd , may i sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever .

Good evening to you all and welcome to this act of Praise and Worship .
Our service starts on page 54 of An Anglican Prayer Book

In the name of God , Father , Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence ,
to offer Him praise and thanksgiving ,
to hear and receive His Holy word ,
to bring before Him the needs of the world ,
to ask His forgiveness of our sins
and to seek His grace that through His Son Jesus Christ ,
we may give ourselves to His service .

Victory is ours through Him who loved us . Alleluia .

Let us worship and praise Him .

Lord , open our lips

That we may glorify and praise Your Name .

Glory to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning , is now , and will be forever . Amen

Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

COME BLESS THE LORD

1. Come bless the Lord all you servants of the Lord : you who by night stand in the house of our God .

2. Lift up your hands towards the holy place and bless the Lord : may the Lord bless you from Zion , the Lord who made heaven and earth .

Glory to the Father , and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning: is now and will be forever . Amen

PENITENCE:

Let us call to mind and confess our sins

Almighty God , our heavenly Father

In penitence we confess

that we have sinned against you , through our own fault , in thought , word , and deed and in what we have left undone . For the sake of your Son , Christ our Lord , forgive us that is passed and grant that we may serve you , in newness of life , to the glory of your Name .

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and keep us in eternal life , through Jesus Christ our Lord . Amen

Liturgy Of The Word:

Appointed Psalm : 23

Sung by the choir in IsiXhosa

1. UYehova ngumalusi wam , andisweli lutho .

2. Wenza ukuba mandibuthe emakriweni aluhlaza , Undithundezela emanzini angawokuphumla .

3. Uyawubuyisa umphefumlo wam , Undikhaphela ezindleleni zobulungisa ngenxa yegama lakhe .

4. Nokuba ndihamba emfuleni wethunzi lokufa , andiyi koyika bubi , nhokuba unam wena ; Inyonga yakho, umsimelelo wakho uyandithuthuzela . 5. Undilungiselela isithebe phambi

kwababandezeli bam , uyithambisa nge oli intloko yam ? Indebe yam iyaphalala. 6. Inene ndiya kulandelwa kokulungilwyo nenceba , Yonke imihla yobomi bam , Ndihlale endlwini kaYehova imihla emide . Uzuko kuYise nakuNyana naku Moya oyiNgcwele . Kqavela kunjalo kusenjalo nanamhla , kohlahlala kunjalo ngonaphakade . Amen

THE FIRST LESSON IS WRITTEN IN...

Acts 2 : 42 - 47

Read in IsiXhosa by : Ntsikie Fani

42. Baye ke bezingisa ukuhlala emfundisweni yabapostile , nasebudlelaneni , nasekuqhekezeni isonka , nasemithandazweni .

43. Ke kaloku kwabakho ukoyika kwimiphefumlo yonke , kwenzeka izimanga ezininzi kwanemiqondiso ngabapostile .

44. Bonke ke ababekholwa babendawonye , benobudlelane ngeento zonke .

45. Baye bethengisa nangemihlaba nangempahla yabo , babele bonke njengoko ebethi ubani aswele ngako . 46. Babezingisa ukuhlala bemxhelo mnye etempileni imihla ngemihla , beqhekeza isonka kwizindlu ngezinflu , besidla ukudla benemigcobo , benolungiselelwano lwentliziyo , 47. bemdumisa uThixo benonelelwe ngabantu bonke . Ysye iNkosi isongeza abasindisiweyo imihla ngemihla kulo ibandla .

Here ends the first lesson

THE SONG OF MARY - We say it together

1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord: my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour .

2. For he has looked with favour on his lowly servant: from this day all generations will call me blessed .

3. The almighty has done great things for me: and holy is his Name .

4. He has mercy on those who fear him : in every generation .

5. He has shown the strength of his arm: he has scattered the proud in their conceit .

6. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones: and has lifted up the lowly .

7. He has filled the hungry with good things: and the rich he has sent away empty .

8. He has come to the help of his servant Israel: for he has remembered his promise of mercy .

9. The promise he made to our forebears: to Abraham and his children for ever .

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning: is now and will be forever

Amen

THE SECOND LESSON IS WRITTEN IN...

John 10 :1-10

Read in English

Jesus said " I am telling you the truth : the man who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate , but climbs in some other way is a thief and a robber . The man who goes in through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep . The gatekeeper opens the gate for him , the sheep hear his voice as he calls his own sheep by name , and he leads them out. When he has brought them out, he goes ahead of them and the sheep follow him , because they know his voice . They will not follow someone else instead they will run away from such a person, because they do not know his voice. " Jesus told them this parable , but they did not understand what he meant . So Jesus said again , " I am telling you the truth : I am the gate for the sheep . All others who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them . I am the gate , Whoever comes in by me will be saved, they will come in and go out and find pasture . The thief comes only in order to steal , kill and destroy . I have come in order that you may have life - life in all its fullness .

Here ends the second lesson

Hymn 218 (IsiXhosa Hymn Book)

Guide me , O Thou Great Jehovah

Ndikhokhele , O Mkhululi

Ndicand" ubugxwayiba ;

Ndiphelelwe , mandibanjwe

Ngeso sakho sithe Nkqi .

Wena sonka , wena sonka

Saphezulu , xhasa mna

Saphezulu , xhasa mna .

**Open now the crystal fountain ,
Whence the healing stream doth flow ,
Let the fiery , clouded pillar ;
Lead me all my journey through .
Strong deliverer , strong deliverer !
Be thou still my strength and shield ,
Be thou still my strength and shield .**

**Ndikudini lwase Yordan
Yotsho ndingaxhalabi ,
Wena Mvingci wesihogo ,
Ndise ngapho e- Kanan ;
Imibongo , imibongo
Ndokwenzel' amax' onke
Ndkwenzel' amax' onke .**

The APOSTLES' CREED - we say it together

I believe in God, the Father almighty
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son , our Lord . He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary

He suffered under Pontius Pilate , was crucified, died and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father .

He will come to judge the living and the dead .

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church. The communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

Please kneel or sit for the LORDS PRAYER - in the language of your choice.

As Christ has taught us we are bold to pray :

Onse Vader wat in die hemel is ,

Laat u Naam geheilig word , laat u koninkryk kom , laat u wil geskied

Soos in die hemel , net so ook op die aarde . Gee ons vandag ons daaglikse brood , en vergeef ons ons skulde , soos ons ook ons skuldenaars vergewe :

En lei ons nie in versoeking nie , maar verlos ons van die bose . Want aan U behoort die koninkryk en die krag en die heerlikheid tot in ewigheid . Amen.

The Prayers:

Lord God, we ask you to give us your blessing,

to your Church , holiness,

to the world , peace ,

to this nation , justice

And to all people, knowledge of your law.

Keep safe our families,

protect the weak ,

heal the sick ,

comfort the dying ,

and bring us all to a joyful resurrection .

We ask these things through Jesus Christ our Lord . Amen

The Collect :

Good Shepherd, you are the gate that secures the sheepfold: grant that all who hear your voice may know you who calls us each by name , and follow where you lead ; for you live and reign in the unity of the blessed Trinity , one God , for ever and ever . Amen

The Collect for Peace :

Eternal God , from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels and all just works proceed :
give your servants that peace which the world cannot give ,
that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments
and that , free from the fear of our enemies
we may pass our time in rest and quietness ,
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

The Evening Collect :

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

Sermon :

Hymn - Here I am Lord

I , the Lord of sea and sky ,
I have heard my people cry .
All who dwell in dark and sin ,
My hand will save .
I , who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright .
Who will bear My light to them ?
Whom shall i send ?

Here i am Lord , Is it I , Lprd
I have heard You calling in the night .
I will go Lord, if You lead me .
I will hold Your people in my heart .

Ek , die Here van sneeu en reen ,
Ek het my mense se pyn gedra.
Ek het gehuil vir die liefde van hulle ,
Hulle draai weg .
Ek sal hul harte van klip breek ,
Gee hulle harte vir liefde allen .
Ek sal my woord aan hulle spreek
Wie sal ek stuur ?

Hier is ek Here , is dit ek ,Here ?
Ek het gehoor dat U in die nag roep .
Ek sal Here gaan as U my lei .
Ek sal U volk in my hart hou .

**I , the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame .
I will set a feast for them ,
My hand will save .
Finest bread i will provide ,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall i send ?**

**Here I am Lord , Is it I Lord ?
I have heard You calling in the night .
I will ho Lord , if You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart .**

May i speak , in the name of the Father , the Son and the Holy Spirit . Amen

Christ is risen , Alleluia
He is risen indeed , Alleluia

This is the fourth Sunday of Easter

Our readings today are focusing on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. These two readings Psalm 23 and John 10:1-10 with its examples of thieves , sheep , gatekeeper , shepherd etc , are exactly what we need to hear today .These readings has got something to do with life and life abundantly. Jesus says , he is the gate that encloses and protects what is valuable to him . He is the gate that opens to pastures of abundance and still waters of abundance . Jesus says " I came , that they may have life and have it more abundantly " .John 10:10 .

Our lives are at stake at the moment, the whole world is under a dark cloud, we are under the shadow of death , we are under the deepest darkness . The whole world is under depression and anxiety because of Covid 19 . People are so down and depressed, they stayed in their homes fearing for their lives. But, let us not be afraid because our Shepherd will protect us .

Today's Psalm is exactly, talking about that deepest darkness. Everyone know this Psalm, it reminds us that Jesus is our Shepherd. It shows us about God's role to the challenges we face in our lives.

× David bravely faced the enemy - a man who weighed more than 300 pounds- Goliath, but he defeated him.

× David faced the lion and a bear , fought with them and won .

David's life was not all smooth - sailing, sometimes he was defeated by difficulties but he never gave up , because he trusted his Shepherd.

This psalm is encouraging us in times of difficulties and hesitation. To have hope in times of fear and anxiety. To give us comfort in times of depression. The Lord is our Shepherd, we have everything we need. We are all the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. As our Shepherd, God is always with us all the time, He leads us to quiet pools of fresh water. Even if we are facing any kind of a challenge or an enemy we are not scared of anything because we have a Shepherd .

We have this challenge of Corona Virus at the moment but we know that our God will protect us .He will protect us even to the deepest darkness. We need to trust Him just like David .

There are some other life challenges that make us to be under the shadow of death - some other times when you have a lot of debts and don't have money to pay , when our marriages are not going well and even when we are unemployed, even when we are facing any kind of enemy to destroy us , we are not afraid because His rod and staff comfort us .

Let's fear not because our Shepherd is always watching us. Let's always remember that after the shadow of death , there's always light. Let's go through to this shadow of death without fear because we have our Shepherd. Let's not lose hope knowing that our Shepherd will lead us to quiet pools of fresh water. Let's go through this shadow of death knowing that there comes a time when goodness and mercy will follow us . Amen

The Prayers:

Heavenly Father, help our church body to walk in a manner worthy of the calling You have given us. Help us in all our interactions with one another to have humble and gentle hearts.

LORD IN YOUR MERCY

Hear our prayer

Jesus, during Your ministry on earth , You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages from physical , mental and spiritual ailments . Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of Covid-19 . May they feel your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses. Take away the fear and feelings of isolation from the people under quarantine. Give them the sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease.

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY

Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, i pray for our nation and leaders. Give our leaders wisdom that they may be able to do things beyond their understanding. Help them to choose the right path when they make decisions on behalf of this nation . Give the President grace and courage to make decisions that align with your will for this nation .

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY

Hear our prayer

Lord Jesus , You sent Your Apostles to make disciples of all nations , bless the bishops of this province , especially Margaret our Bishop , together with Thabo our Metropolitan and all other ministries of Your Church .

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY

Hear our prayer

Almighty God

You have promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in Your Son's Name:

We pray that what we asked faithfully, we may obtain effectually, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit , be with us all for ever. Amen

RECESSIONAL HYMN :

Because He Lives

**God sent His son , they called Him , Jesus ;
He came to love, heal and forgive ;
He lived and died to buy my pardon ,
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives !**

Chorus

***Because He lives, i can face tomorrow ,
Because He lives, all fear is gone,
Because i know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives !***

**How sweet to hold a newborn baby,
And feel the pride and joy He brings;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because He lives!**

**And then one day, I'll cross the river ,
I will fight life's final war with pain ;
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I will see the lights of glory and i will know He lives !**

Prepared by Nokuthula Gilili (Diocese of False Bay Ordinand 2020)