

Night Prayer : Angels

Introduction

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.
Praise him, all you his angels; praise him all his host.
Alleluia.

Psalm 103

The Lord has set his throne in heaven
and his kingdom rules over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all you angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling God's word,
who heed the voice of that word.

Give thanks to the Lord, all you hosts,
you servants who do God's will.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his works,
in every place where God rules.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord!

Reading : Acts 12: 1-11

About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, 'Get up quickly.' And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, 'Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.' He did so. Then he said to him, 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.' Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel's help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'

Angels

Prayers

Response: Lord, hear us. **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God, in the words our Saviour taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

**Around the throne of God a band
Of glorious angels ever stand;
Bright things they see, sweet harps they hold,
And on their heads are crowns of gold.**

**2. Some wait around him, ready still
To sing his praise and do his will;
And some when he commands them, go
To guard his servants here below.**

**3. Lord, give thy angels every day
Command to guide us on our way
And bid them every evening keep
Their watch around us while we sleep.**

**4. So shall no evil thing draw near,
To do us harm or cause us fear;
And we shall dwell, when life is past,
With angels round thy throne at last.**

Responsory

The Lord commands his angels
to keep you in all your ways.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power,
who fulfil his command and heed the voice of his word.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his hosts,
his servants that do his will.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his works, in every place where he rules,
my soul, give thanks to the Lord.

For he commands his angels,
to keep you in all your ways.

Blessing

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints;
Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels;
the Spirit make you holy in God's service;
and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Night Prayer is on zoom. You can join the meeting from 7.15pm to chat to other people, and we begin the worship at 7.30pm. The Meeting ID is 296 467 9306. The password is 176040.