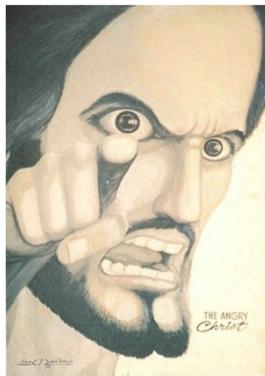


## Chelmsford Cathedral – Prayer for Today

WEDNESDAY, 15 September 2021



O Lord, open our lips  
**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise!**

My God, look at me, answer me,  
shine on me or I will die;  
never let my enemy boast,  
“See how you fall! I have won!”  
I trust in your love  
and rejoice, for you save me;  
I will sing to the Lord  
who treats me with kindness.

Words from Psalm 13

*As you enter into prayer today, take a moment to be still. Come into God's presence with a deepfelt desire to meet with God now. Know that God is the God who sees you and that God is looking at you now with great love. Pause for a moment and be still.*

O God, we carry in our own bodies  
the death of the Lord Jesus,  
that likewise we might manifest his life:  
let not our spiritual foe prevail against us,  
but with the morning light  
raise us up from the sleep of sin and death;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Jesus' exasperation with the response he receives has already emerged in chapter 4 of Luke. Here it bursts out of him - a frustration at being judged, misunderstood. It is easy for us to imagine that our reaction to Jesus would have been different. But imagine Jesus showing up at your door and then bringing his friends with him - corrupt tax collectors, prostitutes, and the odd refugee Samaritan. It is easy to see why Jesus caused trouble even for those who loved and followed him. If Jesus walked into the Cathedral on a Sunday morning, how would we actually respond? This is a question that Luke's Gospel asks us in a probing way.*

### **Luke 7.31-35**

Jesus said 'To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? They are like children sitting in the market-place and calling to one another,  
“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not weep.”

For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, “He has a demon”; the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax-collectors and sinners!” Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children.'

*Spend some time reflecting on the reading, mulling it over.  
Ask God what God wants you to hear today.*

*Offer your personal prayers and thanksgivings  
and offer the day to God in a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving.*

*End this time of prayer by saying the Lord's Prayer.*

*To keep in touch and for more resources for daily prayer  
Please visit [chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](http://chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)*