

**The Benefice of All Saints, Highbrook &
St Margaret of Antioch, West Hoathly**

***Worship for those who need to stay at home
Version 3 - November 2020 - January 2021***



This booklet offers a simple act of worship for the Sundays when you can't get to church, and is offered to help us rely upon and draw close to the presence of Christ.

The words can be said out loud or in the silence of your heart.

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Morning Prayer

Preparation

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

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

You founded the earth in the beginning
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
and in these last days you have spoken to us
in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us
let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
your Spirit ever renew our lives
and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Psalm

*The appointed Psalm for the day is said. The readings for each Sunday
can be found at the back of the booklet.*

Each Psalm may end with:

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever.
Amen.

First Reading

The Old or New Testament Reading is read here.

Hymn

Sing, listen or read a hymn

Gospel Reading

The Gospel Reading is read here.

Gospel Canticle

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.
Through his holy prophets God promised of old
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
To show mercy to our ancestors,
and to remember his holy covenant.
This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.
And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

*Silence for prayer is kept:
Pray for yourself in your isolation,
that God would sit with you
Pray for the sick, the lonely, the sorrowful
Pray for our country
Pray for the world*



The Collect

The Collect of the Day is prayed here. This can be found at the back of the booklet.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be 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.

Conclusion

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Simple Night Prayer

Compline or Night Prayer is a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It can be particularly helpful when feeling worried or distressed in providing a period of calm, and space to give the worries and stresses of the day to God.

Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.

Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.

○ God, make speed to save us.

○ Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Psalm

One or more of the following psalms may be used.

Psalm 4

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?
- 3 But know that the Lord has shown me
his marvellous kindness;
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not;
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?'
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.
- 7 You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 91

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers;
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,

- nor of the arrow that flies by day;
6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
7 Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.
8 Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.
9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,
10 There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
11 For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.
12 They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.
13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder;
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.
14 Because they have set their love upon me,
therefore will I deliver them;
I will lift them up, because they know my name.
15 They will call upon me and I will answer them;
I am with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and bring them to honour.
16 With long life will I satisfy them
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 134

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary
and bless the Lord.
3 The Lord who made heaven and earth
give you blessing out of Zion.

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said or sung

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read:

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

(Revelation 22.4, 5)

(or)

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him, strong in the faith.

(1 Peter 5.8-9)

(or)

In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be your strength. The Lord waits to be gracious to you; blessed are those who wait for him.

(Isaiah 30.15, 18)

*The following **responsory** may be said*

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

All I commend my spirit.

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

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

All Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Cantic

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.

- 1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.
- 2 My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
- 3 A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

(Luke 2.29-32)

All Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

One or more of the following are said:

Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray; and in your mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of your only Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Be present, O 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 in your eternal changelessness. Amen.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray, and drive far from it the snares of the enemy; may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace, and may your blessing be always upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, sustain the dying, calm the suffering, and pity the distressed; all for your love's sake, O Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *may be said.*

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.

The Lord bless us and watch over us;
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

Amen.

Devotional Poems and Readings

The Oxen by Thomas Hardy

Christmas Eve, and twelve of the clock.
“Now they are all on their knees,”
An elder said as we sat in a flock
By the embers in hearthside ease.
We pictured the meek mild creatures where
They dwelt in their strawy pen,
Nor did it occur to one of us there
To doubt they were kneeling then.
So fair a fancy few would weave
In these years! Yet, I feel,
If someone said on Christmas Eve,
“Come; see the oxen kneel,
“In the lonely barton by yonder coomb
Our childhood used to know,”
I should go with him in the gloom,
Hoping it might be so.

An extract from ‘Love Unknown’

by Ruth Burrows OCD

What God longs for is a childlike trust that will surrender us to his love. “Do what you will with me” (cf. Luke 1.38); give me an attentive, directed heart and mind that ceaselessly asks, “what do you want of me?” (cf Acts 22.10). God is then free to work within us, bringing to bear on each one of us “the immeasurable greatness of his power”, that “great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places” (Eph 1.19-20). Let God work; it is *love* that works and his work is love.

I Will Be With You by Malcolm Guite

Your final words fulfil your ancient name,
A promise hidden in *Emmanuel*,
A promise that can never fade or fail:
I will be with you till the end of time;
I will be with you when you scale the height,
And with you when you fall to earth again,
With you when you flourish in the light,
And with you through the shadow and the pain.
Our God with us, you leave and yet remain
Risen and hidden with us everywhere;
Hidden and flowing in the wine we share,
Broken and hidden in the growing grain.
Be with us till we know we are forgiven,
Be with us here till we're with you in heaven.

An extract from 'The Imitation of Christ'

by Thomas a Kempis

On the uses of adversity: From time to time, it is good for us to encounter troubles and adversities, for troubles compel us to search our hearts. It reminds us that we are strangers here, and that we can have no hope of anything in this world. Also, we benefit when we face opposition, and that people think badly of us and misjudge us, even when we do and mean well. Such things assist our humility, and preserve us from pride and empty glory. When others despise us and think no good of us, we more readily turn to the inner judgement of God.

Therefore we should place such complete trust in God, that we need no human comfort. When good people are troubled, tempted, or disturbed by evil thoughts, they come to realize more clearly than ever that they need God, without whom we can do nothing. Then, amid our misfortunes, we grieve and lament greatly and turn to prayer.

Readings and Prayers for the Coming Sundays in Ordinary Time

Don't worry if you don't find exactly the right passage - St Paul assure us that "All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" so whatever you read will help you to grow closer to God.

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 1 Nov 2020 All Saints Day	Rev 7.9-end Psalm 34.1-10 1 John 3.1-3 Matthew 5.1-12	God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.Amen.
Sun 8 Nov 2020 Remembrance Sunday	Wisdom 6.12-16 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4.13-end Matthew 25.1-13	God, our refuge and our strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven. Amen
Sun 15 Nov 2020 The 2nd Sunday before Advent	Zephaniah 1.7, 12- end Psalm 90.1-8 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11 Matthew 25.14-30	Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.Amen.
Sun 22 Nov 2020 Christ the King	Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95.1-7 Ephesians 1.15- end Matthew 25.31- end	God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.Amen.

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 29 Nov 2020 The 1st Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 64.1-8 Psalm 80.1-8 1 Corinthians 1.3-9 Mark 13.24-end	Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.
Sun 6 Dec 2020 The 2nd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 40.1-11 Psalm 85.1-2, 8- end 2 Peter 3.8-15 Mark 1.1-8	Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen
Sun 13 Dec 2020 The 3rd Sunday of Advent	Isaiah 61.1-4, 8- end Psalm 126 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 John 1.6-8, 19-28	God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
Sun 20 Dec 2020 The 4th Sunday of Advent	2 Samuel 7.1-11, 16 Psalm 89.1-8 Romans 16.25- end Luke 1.26-38	Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
Friday 25 Dec 2020 Christmas Day	Isaiah 9.2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2.1-14 Luke 2.1-14	Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 27 Dec 2020 St John, Apostle & Evangelist	Exodus 33.7-11 Psalm 117 1 John 1 John 21.19-end	God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen
Sun 3 Jan 2021 The 2nd Sunday of Christmas	Jeremiah 31.7-14 Psalm 147.13-21 Ephesians 1.3-14 John 1.10-18	God our Father, in love you sent your Son that the world may have life: lead us to seek him among the outcast and to find him in those in need, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen
Weds 6 Jan 2021 The Epiphany	Isaiah 30.1-6 Psalm 72.10-15 Ephesians 3.1-12 Matthew 2.1-12	Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Sun 10 Jan 2021 The Baptism of Christ	Genesis 1.1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19.1-7 Mark 1.4-11	Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen
Sun 17 Jan 2021 The 2nd Sunday of Epiphany	1 Samuel 3.1-10 Psalm 139.1-5, 12-18 Revelation 5.1-10 John 1.43-end	Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 24 Jan 2021 The 3rd Sunday of Epiphany	Genesis 14.17-20 Psalm 128 Revelation 19.6-20 John 2.1-11	God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen
Sun 31 Jan 2021 The 4th Sunday of Epiphany	Deuteronomy 18.15-20 Psalm 111 Revelation 12.1-5 Mark 1.21-28	God of heaven, you send the gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen