

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

Worship at Home
Edition 5: May - July 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, Lord God of all creation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

Raised to your right hand on high
the ascended Christ shows the prints of love
and bestows on us the gifts of grace.

As your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
may we bring forth the fruit of the Spirit

And reveal your glory in all the world.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. Amen.

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

May the Spirit kindle in us the fire of God's love.
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 86

- 1 Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and in misery.
- 2 Preserve my soul, for I am faithful;
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.
- 3 Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer
and listen to the voice of my supplication.
- 7 In the day of my distress I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.
- 8 Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor any works like yours.
- 9 All nations you have made shall come and worship you,
O Lord, and shall glorify your name.
- 10 For you are great and do wonderful things;
you alone are God.
- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth;
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your name.
- 12 I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name for evermore;
- 13 For great is your steadfast love towards me,
for you have delivered my soul from the depths of the grave.
- 14 O God, the proud rise up against me
and a ruthless horde seek after my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15 But you, Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,

slow to anger and full of kindness and truth.

- 16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17 Show me a token of your favour,
that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped and comforted me.

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:

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy. The old shall dream dreams and the young shall see visions.

(Joel 2.28)

(or)

You did not choose me but I choose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

(John 15.16)

(or)

A sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God's rest also cease from their labours as God did from his. Let us therefore make every effort to enter that rest.

(Hebrews 4.9-11a)

*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 Canticle

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

- All* Christ died for us,
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.
- 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 Christ died for us,
so that, whether we wake or sleep,
we might live with him.

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

One or more of the following are said:

Come, O Spirit of God, and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light, and our troubles calmed by your peace; may all evil be redeemed by your love, all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified in his risen life. Amen.

Look down, O Lord, that while we rest in your peace this night, our labour of the day may take root and grow in your mercy towards an eternal harvest. Amen.

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, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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.

May the Holy Spirit of God bless and sanctify us so that we may be consecrated in the truth.

Amen.

Devotional Poems and Readings

Praise (II) by George Herbert

King of glory, King of peace,
I will love Thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move Thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
Thou hast heard me;
Thou didst note my working breast,
Thou hast spared me.
Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing Thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring Thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
Thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
Thou didst hear me.
Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise Thee;
in my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise Thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enroll Thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol Thee

An extract from, a homily by Gregory the Great

The Lord's sheep will find the Lord's pastures. Those who follow Christ with an undivided heart will be nourished in pastures that are forever green. And what are such pastures if not the most profound joy of feeding in the everlasting fields of paradise? For the pasture of the saints is to see God face to face.

‘All times belong to him’: an extract from ‘Candles in the Dark : Faith, hope and love in a time of pandemic’

by Rowan Williams

It's easy to feel in the present situation that we are *wasting time*. Those of us used to a full and even stressful schedule find it hard to adjust to new rhythms...

One of the things that Easter declares is that our world of time and change has been transformed by the event of Jesus' resurrection. When we say that Jesus is risen, we mean that there is no sense in which he belongs to the past; his life is never over. When we celebrate the Eucharist, we don't put flowers on a memorial slab; we meet a living and active presence. And if his life is not over in time, neither is it confined in space. The Easter stories in the New Testament suggest that, again and again, the disciples are startled to meet Jesus; he turns up in unexpected places.

In other words, if what we say of him is true, then - as we say in the prayer for the blessing of the Paschal Candle at the Easter Vigil - 'All times belong to him.' In every moment, every encounter, in times of boredom, anger and anxiety, Jesus is with us, offering himself to us. He is present, saying, 'This moment matters: it is a moment in which you can grow a bit - or shrink a bit - as a human being. It is a moment in which my love is there for you, and my invitation to life is set before you. Don't panic because you're not in control. Your precious humanity is in my hands, and I am ready to give you what is needed to assure you of your dignity and beauty and worth.'

Liturgy haiku

by Sister Anne (@nunblogger)

The Lord is coming
Put other things aside
You are his herald!

Readings and Prayers for the Coming Sundays

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 2 May 2021 Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 8.26-end Psalm 22.25-end I John 4.7-end John 15.1-8	Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life: give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Sun 9 May 2021 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 10.44-end Psalm 98 I John 5.1-6 John 15.9-17	Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Thurs 13 May ASCENSION DAY	Acts 1.1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1.15- end Luke 24.44-end	Risen Christ, you have raised our human nature to the throne of heaven: help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and for ever. Amen

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 16 May 2021 Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 1.15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5.9-13 John 17.6-19	Risen, ascended Lord, as we rejoice at your triumph, fill your Church on earth with power and compassion, that all who are estranged by sin may find forgiveness and know your peace, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.
Sun 23 May PENTECOST	Acts 2.1-21 Psalm 104.26-37b Romans 8.22-27 John 15.26-27; 16.4b-15	Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Sun 30 May TRINITY SUNDAY	Isaiah 6.1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8.12-17 John 3.1-17	Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
Thurs 3 June Corpus Christi (Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion)	Genesis 14.18-20 Psalm 116.10-end 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 John 6.51-58	Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruits of your redemption. Amen.

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 6 June First Sunday after Trinity	Genesis 3.8-15 Psalm 130 2 Corinthians 4.13-5.1 Mark 3.20-end	God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom, that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.
Sun 13 June Second Sunday after Trinity	Ezekiel 17.22-end Psalm 92.1-8 2 Corinthians 5.6-17 Mark 4.26-34	Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Sun 20 June Third Sunday after Trinity	Job 38.1-11 Psalm 107.23-32 2 Corinthians 6.1-13 Mark 4.35-41	God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.
Sun 27 June Fourth Sunday after Trinity	Wisdom 1.13-15; 2.23-24 Psalm 30 2 Corinthians 8.7- end Mark 5.21-end	Gracious Father, by the obedience of Jesus you brought salvation to our wayward world: draw us into harmony with your will, that we may find all things restored in him, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.
Sun 4 July Fifth Sunday after Trinity	Ezekiel 2.1-5 Psalm 123 2 Corinthians 12.2-10 Mark 6.1-13	Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Date	Readings	Collect Prayer
Sun 11 July Sixth Sunday after Trinity	Amos 7.7-15 Psalm 85.8-end Ephesians 1.3-14 Mark 6.14-29	Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.Amen.
Sun 18 July Seventh Sunday after Trinity	Jeremiah 23.1-6 Psalm 23 Ephesians 2.11-end Mark 6.30-34, 53-end	Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Sun 25 July St James the Apostle	Jeremiah 45.1-5 Psalm 126 Acts 11.27-12.2 Matthew 20.20-28	Merciful God, whose holy apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ and followed him even to death: help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world, to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay.Amen.