

A REFLECTIVE SERVICE: FOR WORSHIP IN ISOLATION

A Prayer resources for those who are unable to meet together

An action to take in italics:

Set up a candle or a cross for a focal point for your worship

Say aloud in bold type:

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.

Let us recognise God's presence with us now.

Keep a short silence, still your heart.

As God's people we have gathered;

Let us worship God now together,

Across the distance yet joined together in need.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people,

and kindle in us the fire of your love;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

In the light of Jesus, let us examine ourselves

and confess our sins.

Keep a short silence and leave your sins at the cross

Confession:

Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.

We are not worthy to be called your children.

We turn to you again, have mercy on us,

bring us back to yourself as those who once were dead

but now have life through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Forgiveness:

May the Father forgive us by the death of the Son,

and strengthen us to live in the power of The Spirit

all our days. Amen.

Read the bible reading(s) for today

[Sunday Readings will be in the weekly Church News]

Declaring our faith

We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God:

Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God,

but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave,

he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself

and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross.

Therefore, God has raised him on high,

and given him the name above every name: that at the

name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim

that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

[Taken from Philippians 2.6-11]

We pray for others in the quiet of our hearts.

Lord, meet us in the silence

And hear our prayer.

Silence for prayer is kept:

Pray for yourself in your isolation, that God would sit with you

Pray for others in their loneliness

Pray for our country

Pray for the world

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.

Keep a moment or two of Silence

**Faithful God, may we who share in this time of worship
Glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Our salvation and hope, who reigns as Lord now and forever.
Fill us, Good Lord with your Spirit of love;
And as you have fed us with your presence,
so, make us one in heart and mind, In Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Ending

Let us bless the Lord

Thanks be to God!

**“For God has said, ‘I will not leave you or forsake you’
so we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will
not fear’.” (Hebrews 13:5-6)**

**“It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you;
he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not be
dismayed.” (Deuteronomy 31:8)**

**Please God, we ask that we can meet together in church again,
soon. Amen.**

AN ORDER FOR THE OFFICE OF COMPLINE (NIGHT PRAYER)

The office of Compline (Night prayer) comes from an ancient practice of daily prayers by Christian monastic communities. It is a good way to end the day in quiet contemplation and reflection upon the past day before commending oneself to God and a peaceful night's sleep. The office should be said before going to bed in a quiet and calm way; a candle may be lit and you might like to sing a simple hymn.

**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.**

The following or another suitable hymn may be said or listened to.
**Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.**

**From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.**

**O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.**

The following psalm may be used.

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

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said

**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.**

The following short lesson 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

Psalm 91

¹Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

²I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust."

- ³ Surely he will save you
from the fowler's snare
and from the deadly pestilence.
- ⁴ He will cover you with his feathers,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
- ⁵ You will not fear the terror of night,
nor the arrow that flies by day,
- ⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,
nor the plague that destroys at midday.
- ⁷ A thousand may fall at your side,
ten thousand at your right hand,
but it will not come near you.

The following responses may be said:

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. •(pause)
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth. •(pause)
I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. •(pause)
Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said

**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**

**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 and thanksgivings may be offered here.

Silence may be kept.

**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.**

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.**

Ending

**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.**