

The Royal Army Chaplains' Department



Soldiers' Worship

Pre Print Version
Remembrancetide 2003

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Soldiers' Worship

Christian Worship for British Soldiers.

**Collected Ecumenical Prayers and
Authorised Denominational Rites from
the Sending Churches of the United Kingdom.**

The Lord's Prayer

Welsh text at rear of book

All **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.**

The Apostles' Creed

Welsh text at rear of book

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The National Anthem

**God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store
on her be pleased to pour,
long may she reign:
may she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the Queen!**

Foreword

Soldiers' Worship is a pocket book of Christian Prayers, Bible Readings, Songs and Services tailored to the needs of soldiers, and all who support them in times of peace and wellbeing, and in times of conflict or distress. This book is small in size, but contains a surprising richness of material to offer spiritual and pastoral support all personnel who look to the Christian Faith for their strength and inspiration.

The Royal Army Chaplains' Department takes seriously the responsibility to offer spiritual support to those of other religious traditions, and provision is made for them elsewhere; but *this* book offers a broad range of prayers and readings that will be acceptable to all ecumenically minded Christians; and makes available in compact form the central rites or services of those Churches of the United Kingdom who send chaplains to Her Majesty's Forces.

Here you will find a personal prayer book for use in barracks or in the field; here you will find a sufficient resource for chaplains to exercise their ministry to troops and others they may have to serve; and here you will find a manual for officers and others to fulfill the spiritual needs and expectations of troops when no chaplain is available.

This book I commend to Commanders. Carry it at all times and read it often on active service. Encourage your subordinates to do the same. The prayers and readings are highly focused on the challenges your troops will face; on the fears that will haunt them; and on the hopes that will keep them going. Know this book, and the faith it proclaims; and be ready to sustain your troops with its content should you need to rejoice or lament without a chaplain, for the spiritual wellbeing of your soldiers is your responsibility.

This book I commend to soldiers. Carry it and read it often. You will find prayers and bible readings to help you understand the circumstances in which you find yourself, and it will help you to hold in your heart your loved ones at home, and your comrades around you.

And this book I commend to chaplains. You will find here a highly focused personal prayer book, a pocket book for ecumenical worship, and resources for the sacramental ministry of your own sending church.

May God bless us in all we do:
may we find his peace and know his mercy.

(Signed) John Blackburn
Chaplain-General of HM Land Forces

Acknowledgements

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Many of the public domain classical Christian prayers and the prayers from non-Christian sources were identified with the help of Brother Nicholas of the De La Salle Brothers in Great Britain. (<http://www.prayingeachday.org/>) One prayer in this book is his own, and is acknowledged.

This British book draws inspiration from the ECUSA Prayer Book for the Armed Services, and the author offers his thanks to his colleagues in the US Military Chaplaincy. Thanks are due many members of Christians on the Internet (<http://www.coin.org.uk>) and to Simon Kershaw, UK editor of Oremus (<http://oremus.org/>) where Labarum, (<http://oremus.org/labarum/>), the RACHD Liturgical site is hosted. Thanks are owed also to The Very Rev Michael Perham, Dean of Derby, who read the text and offered useful advice and encouragement; to the Rev Aled Thomas CF, who has provided Welsh language input to the book; to many colleagues in the RACHD whose support, encouragement and knowledge have been essential; to officials of the sending churches who have made texts available, and have been flexible in allowing their use to be tailored to the needs of Active Service; to the reprographics unit in Arborfield who produced a field trial edition at very short notice for use in Iraq; and to Yvonne in Colchester Garrison reprographics, who cheerfully produced the mountains of paper generated by this book and the Labarum Project.

*Brian Elliott CF Editor
Remembrancetide 2003*

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Not yet

How to use this Book

Daily Prayer. These services may be used as private prayer, as daily prayer with a small gathered group, or as seven ready to use general services, which anyone may lead. This order is based on “Prayer During the Day” from the Common Worship of the Church of England. Forty pages set serious limits, but much variety is retained. The Psalms cannot be printed in full, but a good number of Psalms and Canticles have been included. These words of scripture remain usable when it is impossible to sing. The optional selected prayers for each day contain many Psalm-Collects, which in a few lines capture the content of a psalm. The daily options and the resources section provide a very good selection of prayers. On any day choose only two or three.

Readings and Resources - for seasonal and routine services.

Principal Services. This central part of this book provides a main ecumenical Service of the Word (Divine Service), and the Eucharistic Rites (Communion Services) of the United Kingdom Sending Churches..

Roman Catholic Services – Eucharistic, penitential and funeral rites.

Pastoral Services. This section provides for the caring or “pastoral” ministry of the church to servicemen and women in difficult times. The Prayer for Healing and Strength is for use before or after engaging hostile forces, but may be used at any time, as may the rite of reconciliation (confession). Adult baptism services are provided, and a full range of prayers for use surrounding serious injury or death on active service. Ideally these services should be conducted by a chaplain, but in case of need any baptised person acceptable to those concerned may, with limitations, assume the role of “the minister”. These services have been carefully presented to make it possible for any lay person to conduct a funeral or other service with confidence and dignity.

Limitations The Eucharistic Rites require a chaplain of the appropriate denomination; except that Communion Order 1 (Reserved Sacrament) may be lead by an authorized Anglican lay-minister; and Order 3 (Spiritual Communion) is a personal devotion. A lay person shall not pronounce a blessing or a formal absolution of sins; and shall not anoint unless authorised. No lay person shall use the full rite of baptism; but may use either emergency form. Every attempt should be made to fulfil the expectations of persons in pastoral care; and to respect the rules and traditions of all the sending churches. Except when using the Welsh language Orders of the Church in Wales, Anglican Chaplains shall use the provisions of Common Worship from this book, or from the official texts; or else use the Book of Common Prayer. *BE*

Penitential Introduction to Daily Prayer

*This penitential introduction may be used on any day.
If Daily Prayer is the main Sunday act of worship, this,
or the following Eastertide introduction is mandatory.*

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you.

All **and also with you.**

On Sundays these words may be said

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*The leader invites all to remember their failings in silence
and then says:*

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:

All **Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

May the God of love
bring *us* back to himself,
forgive *us our* sins,
and assure *us* of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Introduction to Daily Prayer in Eastertide

This form may be used from Easter day until Ascension Day.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Alleluia Christ is risen,

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

There is one body and one spirit.

All **There is one hope to which we were called;**

one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

All **one God and Father of all.**

Peace be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,
and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength,
and not by the power of your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All **Lord, hear us and help us.**

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

All **Lord, hear us and help us.**

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse *us* from our sins,
and restore *us* in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Daily Prayer begins with the opening canticle or hymn

Sunday Prayer

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;
in his word is my hope.

Psalm 130.4

Praise

Either of these Canticles, or else a hymn may be used.

Gloria in Excelsis - Song of God's Glory (except in Advent & Lent)

All **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,

you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(or) ***O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.***

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

All **Tell it out among the nations that the Lord is King.**

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

God's salvation has openly been shown to all people.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

All **Declare his glory among the nations**

and his wonders among all peoples.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

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.

The Word of God

For a main Sunday Service a Gospel reading is preferred to these below.

Week One

Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah, saying, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him. *1 Kings 19:9,11-13.*

Week Two

‘Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.’

Revelation 3.20-22

Week Three

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1.3-6

Week Four

Jesus said, ‘The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.’ *John 4.23,24*

Response

Christ in you, the hope of glory.

All **This is the gospel we proclaim.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles’ Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

That this and all our days
may be full of your praise:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will keep us this day without sin:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That we may walk before you
in the paths of righteousness and peace:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will bless your people
and lift them up for ever:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

That you will guide and protect us by your Holy Spirit
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting:

All **we pray to you, O Lord.**

The Prayers for Friday may be used, especially in Lent.

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *The universal Church, that she may proclaim the living Lord*

¶ *The natural world, that we might use creation sustainably*

¶ *The needy, that they may know new life*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

Gladden our hearts, O God, with the remembrance of the glorious
resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ; give us this day such blessing
through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in
the awareness of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Father, your power is greater than all powers.

O Son, under your leadership we cannot fear anything.

O Spirit, under your protection there is nothing we cannot overcome.

A prayer of the Kikuyu, Kenya

Almighty God, when the world's wars terrify us, lift our eyes to your
Son, enthroned on Calvary, whose meekness dumbfounds kings and
shatters earthly pride. **Amen.**

Psalms 2

God of heaven, look with mercy on all who are consumed by ignorance and greed; and let the children of earth know that you are God for ever. **Amen.** *Psalm 14*

O God, lead us in the paths of righteousness, and let your mercy follow us that we may dwell with you for ever. **Amen** *Psalm 23*

God, our shelter and our shield, do not disappoint us in our hope but deal with us according to your loving mercy; for your commands are the joy of our hearts and give us life and light in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** *Psalm 119 v 113*

God of our joy and gladness, hear our prayer for the peace of this world and bring us at last, with all our companions in faith, to the peace of that city where you live and reign, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and to all eternity. **Amen** *Psalm 122*

Lord God, creator of all things, who in your loving-kindness and care meet our human needs: with the dawn of each day help us to set our hearts and hope upon you, that we may show you in the world as the universal and eternal king; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 146*

O glorious God, the whole of creation proclaims your marvellous work: increase in us a capacity to wonder and delight in it, that heaven's praise may echo in our hearts and our lives be spent as good stewards of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 148*

O God, to those who have hunger, give bread, and to us who have bread, give the hunger for justice. *World Council of Churches*

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me,
Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me,
Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. *St Patrick's Breastplate*
The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .** *Full text inside front cover)*

The Conclusion

May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith.

All **Amen.**

Monday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust.

Praise

Psalm 25.1

Either of these Canticles, or else a hymn may be used.

A Song of the Lord's Anointed

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me.

All **He has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,**

To proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

All **To proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and to comfort all who mourn.**

Isaiah 61

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.**

Or The Song of Moses and Miriam

I will sing to the Lord, who has triumphed gloriously,
The horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

All **The Lord is my strength and my song.
and has become my salvation.**

This is my God whom I will praise,
the God of my forebears whom I will exalt.

All **The Lord is a warrior, the Lord is his name.
Your right hand, O Lord, is glorious in power:
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.**

All **In your unfailing love, O Lord,
you lead the people whom you have redeemed.**

And by your invincible strength
you will guide them to your holy dwelling.

Exodus 15.

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.**

The Word of God

Week One

The Lord says this: Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

Isaiah 55.1-3

Week Two

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. *Colossians 3.1-3*

Week Three

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. *I Corinthians 12.12,13*

Week Four

Jesus said to the disciples again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

John 20.21-23

Response

Jesus said, ‘Receive the Spirit.

All As the Father sent me, so I send you.’

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles’ Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.

All **Govern and uphold them now and always.**

Day by day, we bless you.

All **We praise your name for ever.**

Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.

All **Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

We long for your salvation, O Lord:

All **grant us understanding, that we may live.**

Lord, show us your love and mercy,

All **for we put our trust in you.**

In you, Lord, is our hope:

All **let us not be confounded at the last.**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *The people of God, for inspiration by the Spirit*

¶ *The media, for healthy communication*

¶ *Those who travel, for safety and protection*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers,
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

Eternal light, shine into our hearts, eternal goodness, deliver us from evil, eternal power, be our support, eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance, eternal pity, have mercy upon us; that with all our heart and mind and soul and strength we may seek your face and be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Alcuin of York (804)*

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and worship you now and always. **Amen.**

A New Zealand Prayer Book

The things that we pray for, good Lord,
give us your grace to work for.

Sir Thomas More

O God, our helper and defender, deliver us in our weakness, answer our longings and vindicate our faith, that we may see your glory in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalms 70

Gracious God, we praise you for your steadfast love revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ; give us the desire to make your faithfulness known in all the world, that every nation may come to praise you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 117*

God of mercy, swift to help us, as our lips pour forth your praise, fill our hearts with the peace you give to those who love your law and wait for your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**
Psalm 119 v 161

God of power, you are strong to save and you never fail those who trust in you: keep us under your protection and spread abroad your reign of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord...**Amen** *Psalm 125*

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other. **Amen** *Reinhold Niebuhr*

In the Morning

Lord our God, as with all creation we offer you the life of this new day, give us grace to love and serve you to the praise of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the evening

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God, so may your mercy come down upon us to cleanse our hearts and set us free to sing your praise for ever and ever. **Amen.**

From the Funeral of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (AD2002)

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light; no noise nor silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end. **Amen.**

John Donne (1572-1631)

The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .** *(Full text inside front cover)*

The Conclusion

May God kindle in us the fire of love.

All **Amen.**

Tuesday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. *Psalm 19.14*

Praise

This Canticle may be used, or else a hymn may be sung.

A Song of Repentance

This is the message we have heard from Christ
and proclaim to you:
that God is light,
in whom there is no darkness at all.

All **If we say that we have fellowship with God
while we walk in darkness,
we lie and do not do what is true.**

But if we walk in the light
as God is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another.
And the blood of Jesus, the Son of God,
cleanses us from all our sins.

All **If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves
and the truth is not in us.**

If we confess our sins,
the One who is faithful and just will forgive us
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1. 5-9*

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.**

The Word of God

Week One

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announce salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’ Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. *Isaiah 52.7-9*

Week Two

The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to Jesus. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

Luke 4.17-21

Week Three

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55.10,11

Week Four

The word of the Lord came to me saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.’ Then I said, ‘Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.’ But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not say, “I am only a boy”; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.’ *Jeremiah 1.4-8*

Response

May your word live in us

All **and bear much fruit to your glory.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles' Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Teach us, O Lord, the way of your statutes;
All **and lead us in the path of your commandments.**

Keep our nation under your care;
All **and guide us in justice and truth.**

O Lord, deal graciously with your servants;
All **teach us discernment and knowledge.**

Let not the needy be forgotten;
All **nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Guide the meek in judgement;
All **and teach your ways to the gentle.**

Lord, remember your people;
All **whom you have purchased and redeemed of old.**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *The persecuted Church, for protection and faithfulness*

¶ *The criminal justice system, for wisdom and fairness*

¶ *The world's displaced people, for freedom and security*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers,
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart;
that so desiring, we may seek and find you; and so finding, may love
you; and so loving, may hate those sins from which you have
delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Anselm (1109)*

Your kingdom come, O Lord, with deliverance for the needy, with
peace for the righteous, with overflowing blessing for all nations,
with glory, honour and praise for the only Saviour, Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 72*

Lord, ever watchful and faithful, we look to you to be our defence
and we lift up our hearts to know your help; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 121*

Sovereign God, enthroned in the heavens, look upon us with your eyes of mercy, as we look upon you with humility and love, and fill our souls with your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Psalm 123

God of our joys and sorrows, comfort the exiled, console the oppressed and bring us in joy to our true home, where your faithful servants sing your praise, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for all eternity. **Amen.**

Psalm 137

Eternal God, whose Son struggled against the forces which enfeeble and enslave your people: shield us from evil and all deception, that we may enter your truth and enjoy the abundance of his risen life; who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 144

Generous God, your light shines in the darkness for the upright and you promise to bless those who fear you; may we never be shaken in our resolve to uphold your truth and live generously, after the pattern of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 112

Lord, the sea is so wide and my boat is so small. Be with me.

Prayer of a Breton fisherman

In the Morning

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day. Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, order us in all our doings and guide us to do always what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Evening

Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening, and day is drawing to a close. Abide with us and with your whole Church, in the evening of the day, in the evening of life, in the evening of the world; abide with us and with all your faithful ones, O Lord, in time and in eternity.

Amen.

Other prayers may be said, ending with the Lord's Prayer.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .** *(Full text inside front cover)*

The Conclusion

May God bless the work of our hands.

All **Amen.**

Wednesday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths. *Psalm 25.3*

Praise

This Canticle may be used, or else a hymn may be sung.

A Song of God's Blessing

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make his face to shine upon us,

All **That your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

All **O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.**

All Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

All **Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,
and God, our own God, will bless us.**

God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. *Psalm 67*

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.**

The Word of God

Week One

Jesus said to the crowds: ‘You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.’ *Matthew 5.13-16*

Week Two

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

I Corinthians 13.4-7

Week Three

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. *I Peter 2.9,10*

Week Four

Nothing accursed will be found in the city any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever. *Revelation 22.3-5*

Response

The love of Christ compels us.

All **We are ambassadors for him.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles’ Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

O Lord, answer us in the day of trouble,
All **send us help from your holy place.**
Show us the path of life,
All **for in your presence is joy.**
Give justice to the orphan and oppressed
All **and break the power of wickedness and evil.**
Look upon the hungry and sorrowful
All **and grant them the help for which they long.**
Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad;
All **may your glory endure for ever.**
Your kingship has dominion over all
All **and with you is our redemption.**

*Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.
Prayers may include these concerns:*

¶ *All who follow Christ, for growth in discipleship*
¶ *All in the medical profession*
¶ *All who have no one to pray for them*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, other prayers,
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

Reveal in us your glory, Lord; stir in us your power. Renew in us
your kingdom, Lord; strengthen in us your hope. Work in us your
miracles, Lord; abide in us yourself. **Amen.**

Daily Prayer (Diocese of Durham)

Send your holy angels to watch over us, O loving God, that on our
lips will be found your truth and in our hearts your love; for his sake
who died for love of our love, even Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen. *Psalm 34*

Lord, when we are repaid with evil for good, help us not to return
evil for evil, but to bear witness to your steadfast love, shown in the
face of your dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.** *Psalm 109*

Feed your people, O Lord, with your holy Word and free us from the temptations which lead us away from you, that, being filled with your mercy, we may be admitted to your holy presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 33*

To you we come, O Lord, from the noise of rebellion, from the violence of the city, from deceit and treachery, to hear your voice and to seek your sustaining care in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 55*

Lord God, creator of all things, who in your loving-kindness and care meet our human needs: with the dawn of each day help us to set our hearts and hope upon you, that we may show you in the world as the universal and eternal king; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** *Psalm 146*

Loving God, from birth to death you hold us in your hand: make us strong to bear each other's burdens and humble to share our own, that, as one family, we may rest in your strength and trust in your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Trusting in your goodness and great mercy, Lord, I come: sick - I come to my Saviour; hungry and thirsty - to the well of Life; needy - to the King of Heaven. *Thomas à Kempis*

Be, Lord Jesus, a bright flame before me, a guiding star above me, a smooth path below me, a kindly shepherd behind me: today, tonight, and forever. *St Columba*

For the medical profession

Gracious Father, our maker and protector: bless all doctors, nurses and medics, and all who support them in their healing work; give them skill, understanding and compassion, and enable them to work in dependence on your grace, and for the promotion of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .** *(Full text inside front cover)*

The Conclusion

May God who made both heaven and earth bless us.

All **Amen.**

Thursday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path. *Psalm 143.10*

Praise

This Canticle may be used, or else a hymn may be sung.

A Song of God's Love

Beloved, let us love one another,
for love is of God; .
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.
Whoever does not love does not know God,
for God is love.

All **In this the love of God was revealed among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.**

In this is love,
not that we loved God but that he loved us,
and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins.

All **Beloved, since God loved us so much,
we ought also to love one another.**

For if we love one another, God abides in us,
and God's love will be perfected in us. *1 John 4.7-11, 12b*

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.**

The Word of God

Week One

Brothers and sisters, I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. *I Corinthians 11.23-26*

Week Two

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise. *Galatians 3.27-29*

Week Three

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized Jesus, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed. *Mark 6.53-56*

Week Four

Jesus said, ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’ *John 13.34,35*

Response

Let us love one another, because love is from God.

All **Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles' Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Show us your mercy, O Lord;
All **and grant us your salvation.**

O Lord, save the *Queen*;
All **And teach her counsellors wisdom.**

Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;
All **let your faithful people sing with joy.**

Let your ways be known upon earth;
All **your saving health among all nations.**

Give your people the blessing of peace;
All **and may all the earth be filled with your glory.**

Create in us clean hearts, O God,
All **and renew a right spirit within us.**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *Ministers of the gospel*

¶ *Those who work for reconciliation*

¶ *Those in hospital*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers,
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you,
diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a
heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you, through the
power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Benedict of Nursia (c.550)

How generous is your goodness, O God, how great is your salvation, how faithful is your love. Help us to trust in you in trial, to praise you in deliverance and to rejoice before you with overflowing hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 66*

Gracious God, we praise you for your steadfast love revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ; give us the desire to make your faithfulness known in all the world, that every nation may come to praise you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 117*

Send your holy angels to watch over us, O loving God, that on our lips will be found your truth and in our hearts your love; for his sake who died for love of our love, even Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your servants from all assaults of our enemies; that we may trust in your defence, and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I thank you, Lord, for knowing me better than I know myself, and for letting me know myself better than others know me. Make me, I pray you, better than they suppose, and forgive me for what they do not know. *Abu Bekr, Father-in-law of Mohamed*

For the sick and wounded

Heavenly Father, giver of health and life, look in your mercy on the wounded, sick and suffering; that by your blessing upon them, and upon those who care for them, they may be restored if it be your will to health of body and mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Thanksgiving for Holy Communion

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; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven, . . .** *(Full text inside front cover)*

The Conclusion

May Christ our redeemer bring us healing and wholeness.

All **Amen.**

Friday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

(or) Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. *Psalm 51.11*

(or) *In Eastertide*
I will call upon the Most High God,
The God who fulfils his purpose for me. *Psalm 57.3*

Praise

This Canticle may be used, or else a hymn may be sung.

Saviour of the World

Jesus, Saviour of the world,
come to us in your mercy:
we look to you to save and help us.

All **By your cross and your life laid down,
you set your people free:
we look to you to save and help us.**

When they were ready to perish, you saved your disciples:
we look to you to come to our help.

All **In the greatness of your mercy, loose us from our chains,
forgive the sins of all your people.**

Make yourself known as our Saviour and mighty deliverer;
save and help us that we may praise you.

All **Come now and dwell with us, Lord Christ Jesus:
hear our prayer and be with us always.**

And when you come in your glory:
make us to be one with you
and to share the life of your kingdom.

In Eastertide use

A Song of Faith, page XXX, or

The Song of Moses and Miriam page XXX

The Word of God

Week One

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. *Amos 5.14,15*

Week Two

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. *2 Chronicles 7.13,14*

Week Three

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. *2 Corinthians 4.8-10*

Week Four

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. *John 3.16,17*

Response

Jesus is the Lamb of God,
All **who takes away the sin of the world.**

Or, in Eastertide.

Alleluia. Jesus is the resurrection and the life.
All **Those who believe in him shall never die. Alleluia.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles' Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

For the people of God,
that they may worship you in spirit and in truth,
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders of the nations,
that you will guide them in the ways of mercy and truth,
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peacemakers, that you may protect them from all evil,
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For our enemies, and those who wish us harm,
that you may turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For our loved ones, wherever they may be
and for our comrades here and at home,
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and wounded,
and for all prisoners and captives,
that they may know your power to heal and save,
let us pray to the Lord:

All **Lord, have mercy.**

[For those who have died . . . for those who have been killed . . .]
[and for those who mourn. . .]
[let us pray to the Lord:]

All **[Lord, have mercy.]**

BE

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *Those in authority, for the right use of power*

¶ *Those who bear arms, for discipline, discernment and compassion*

¶ *Victims and perpetrators of violence, for healing and repentance*

*A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers,
and Lord's Prayer to end.*

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for all the benefits you have won for us, for all the pains and insults you have borne for us. Most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. **Amen.**

After Richard of Chichester (1253)

Lord, your justice turns evil on itself; help us to examine our hearts and repent of all duplicity (*or hypocrisy*) for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Judge and righteous Saviour. **Amen.** *Psalm 7*

God of all mankind, when the earth shakes and the nations are in uproar, speak, and let the storms be still, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 46*

Go before us, O Lord, with the blessings of your goodness and guide all those you call to authority in the way of your justice, the knowledge of our liberty and the wisdom of your gentleness; for your name's sake. **Amen.** *Psalm 21*

God of life and love, whose Son was victorious over sin and death: make us alive with his life, that the whole world may resound with your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** *Psalm 150*

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do your will. **Amen.** *Ignatius of Loyola (1556)*

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our brothers and sisters throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them by our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love give peace and joy. **Amen.** *Pope Paul VI*

Eternal God and Father, you create and redeem us by the power of your love: guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

(Full text – inside front cover)

The Conclusion

May Christ our Saviour give us peace.

All **Amen.**

Saturday Prayer

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

(or) I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?
My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Psalm 121.1,

Praise

Either of these Canticles, or else a hymn may be used.

Great and Wonderful

Great and wonderful are your deeds,
Lord God the Almighty.

All **Just and true are your ways,
O ruler of the nations.**

Who shall not revere and praise your name, O Lord? .
for you alone are holy.

All **All nations shall come and worship in your presence:
for your just dealings have been revealed. Revelation 15.3,4**

To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb.
be blessing and honour and glory and might,
for ever and ever. Amen.

(or) ***Jubilate - A Song of Joy***

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth; *Psalm 100*
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

All **Know that the Lord is God;
it is he that has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**

All Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and bless his name.

All **For the Lord is gracious; his steadfast love is everlasting,
and his faithfulness endures from generation to generations.**

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.**

The Word of God

Week One

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.' The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. *Isaiah 6.1-4*

Week Two

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.' *Revelation 21.1-4*

Week Three

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. *Isaiah 11.6-9*

Week Four

When the Lamb had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell before the Lamb, each holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. They sing a new song: 'You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slaughtered and by your blood you ransomed for God saints from every tribe and language and people and nation; you have made them to be a kingdom and priests serving our God, and they will reign on earth.' *Revelation 5.8-10*

Response

We have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens.

All **We come boldly to the throne of grace.**

Options: Sermon – Hymns/Songs - Apostles' Creed (inside front cover.)

Prayers

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

Send forth your strength, O God,
All **establish what you have wrought in us.**

Uphold all those who fall
All **and raise up those who are bowed down.**

Open the eyes of the blind
All **and set the prisoners free.**

Sustain the orphan and widow
All **and give food to those who hunger.**

Grant them the joy of your help again
All **and sustain them with your Spirit.**

O Lord, judge the peoples
All **and take all nations for your own.**

Free prayer may be offered and silence is kept.

Prayers may include these concerns:

¶ *That Christians may live as citizens of heaven*

¶ *That the nations of the world will live in harmony*

¶ *That the dying will know the joy of resurrection*

A collect (pXX) be may said, any other prayers, and Lord's Prayer to end.

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in my eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;

God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

God be at mine end, and at my departing.

Sarum Primer

As Christ was raised by your glory, O Father, so may we walk in newness
of life and rejoice to be called the children of God,
now and for ever. **Amen**

Psalm 47

Be gracious to us, Lord our God, and restore us to fullness of life with
you; that mercy and truth may be our guide and peace be a pathway for
our feet; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 85

King of the universe, whose wisdom gives order and fruitfulness to the earth: help us to respond trustfully to your call, that being drawn into the unity of your kingdom we may continually praise you for your providential care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 147*

Lord God, our maker and our king, you judge all peoples according to your justice: inspire and strengthen us with your Spirit, that we may expose the pretence of worldly power and ever witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 149*

For the departed, that they may know the joy of resurrection

Lord, welcome into your calm and peaceful kingdom those who have departed out of this present life to be with you. Grant them rest and a place with the spirits of the just; and give them the life that knows no age, the reward that passes not away, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

St Ignatius Loyola

Father of all, by whose mercy and grace your saints remain in everlasting light and peace: we remember with thanksgiving those whom we love but see no longer; and we pray that in them your perfect will may be fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A personal Prayer

Lord, I commit my failures as well as my successes into your hands, and I bring for your healing the people and the situations, the wrongs and the hurts of the past. Give me courage, strength and generosity to let go and move on, leaving the past behind me, and living the present to the full. Lead me always to be positive as I entrust 'the past to your mercy, the present to your love, and the future to your providence'.

Brother Nicholas Hutchinson FSC, on a quote from St Augustine.

In preparation for Sunday Communion

We give you thanks, Father, for the holy meal in which Christ is received, the memory of his passion is renewed, our lives are filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us. To him with you and the Holy Spirit be glory for ever. **Amen.** *Roman Breviary*

The Lord's Prayer is said.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

(Full text – inside front cover)

The Conclusion

May God grant to the world justice, truth and peace.

All **Amen.**

Opening Canticles

*These may be used on any day before or in place of the set canticle.
At Divine Service an opening canticle may be used before the collect.*

Venite – a Song of Triumph *For use in the morning.*

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.

All **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving .
and be glad in him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God
and a great king above all gods.

All **In his hand are the depths of the earth .
and the heights of the mountains are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

All **Come, let us worship and bow down .
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

For he is our God;
we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

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.**

A Song of Worship - Psalm 134 *For use in the evening.*

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, .
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.

All **Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary .
and bless the Lord.**

The Lord who made heaven and earth .
give you blessing out of Zion.

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.**

Gospel Canticles

These may be used on any day after the reading(s) at Daily Prayer or Divine Service.

For use in the morning.

Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,
who has come to his people and set them free.

All **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,

All **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,

All **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,

All **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,

All **To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.68-79***

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.**

For use in the evening.

Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;

All **he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed;**
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

All **He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.**
He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

All **Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.**
He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.

All **He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,**
The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever. *Luke 1.46-55*

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.**

Or this may be used in the late evening.

Nunc Dimittis (The Song of Simeon)

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

All **My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**
A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

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.**

Readings by theme, and for the seasons.

These readings may be substituted according to season or current concerns, or any other reading programme may be used.

Advent – Waiting to be saved.

Sunday

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’ *Jeremiah 23.5,6*

Monday

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. *Isaiah 60.1-3*

Tuesday

‘With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?’ He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? *Micah 6.6-8*

Wednesday

Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.’ *Luke 12.35-37*

Thursday

Jesus said to Peter, James, John and Andrew, ‘It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore keep awake – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’ *Mark 13.34-37*

Friday

Brothers and sisters, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. *Romans 13.11-14*

Saturday

The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who hears say, ‘Come.’ And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. The one who testifies to these things says, ‘Surely I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen. *Revelation 22.17, 20-21*

Christmas Season – Light and Peace

Sunday

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. *Isaiah 9.2,6,7*

Monday

The Lord says to his people: But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace. *Micah 5.2-5a*

Tuesday

An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are

to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,’ which means, ‘God is with us.’ *Matthew 1.20b-23*

Wednesday

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

John 1.1,14

Thursday

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. *Galatians 4.4-7*

Friday

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds. *Titus 2.11-14*

Saturday

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. *Hebrews 1.1-3a*

Lent – Turning from wrong.

Sunday

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take words with you and return to the Lord; say to him, ‘Take away all guilt; accept that which is good, and we will offer the fruit of our lips.’ *Hosea 14.1,2*

Monday

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain-offering and a drink-offering for the Lord, your God?

Joel 2.12-14

Tuesday

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. *Amos 5.14,15*

Wednesday

I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! *Rom 7.21-25*

Thursday

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. *Isaiah 58.6-9a*

Friday

Jesus said to the disciples, 'Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.' *Matthew 6.1-4*

Saturday

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

1 Corinthians 9.24-27

The Cross of Christ – Passiontide – Suffering

Sunday

Thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. *Is 43.1-3a*

Monday

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.’

Mark 8.31-35

Tuesday

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. *Isaiah 53.4-6*

Wednesday

The Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, ‘We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the

Lord to take away the serpents from us.’ So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, ‘Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.’ So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Numbers 21.6-9

Thursday

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. *I Peter 2.24,25*

Friday

While we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Romans 5.6-8

Saturday

Jesus answered Andrew and Philip, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.’ *John 12.23-26*

Easter – Victory

Sunday

Job said, ‘O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock for ever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.’ *Job 19.23-27a*

Monday

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your

hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.
Zephaniah 3.14-18

Tuesday

As the two disciples came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, ‘Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.’ So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Jesus; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’ *Luke 24.28-32*

Wednesday

The other disciples told Thomas, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’ *John 20.25-29*

Thursday

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. *I Peter 1.3-5*

Friday

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not

have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4.14-16

Saturday

I, John, looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, 'Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, 'To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might for ever and ever!' And the four living creatures said, 'Amen!' And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Revelation 5.11-14

Pentecost– The Spirit of God

Sunday

Jesus said, 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

Acts 1.8,9

Monday

Afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. *Joel 2.28,29*

Tuesday

There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *I Corinthians 12.4-7*

Wednesday

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8.26,27

Thursday

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. *Galatians 5.22-25*

Friday

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. *Acts 2.1-4*

Saturday

The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit. *2 Corinthians 3.17,18*

Readings by Theme

Isaiah the Prophet asks us to prepare the Way of the Lord

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." *Isaiah 40.1-5*

The Christmas Story

See Carol Service page XXX

The Christmas Gospel - St John unfolds the Mystery of the incarnation

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. *John 1.1-14*

Jesus Summarises the Law

One of the scribes asked Jesus, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' *Mark 12.28-3*

The Sermon on the Mount – The Beatitudes

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Matthew 5.1-12

Love your enemies and pray for them.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you,

what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. *Matthew 5. 43-48*

Serving Christ in others

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25.34-40

The Roman Soldier

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, ‘Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed, in terrible distress.’ And he said to him, ‘I will come and cure him.’ The centurion answered, ‘Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, “Go,” and he goes, and to another, “Come,” and he comes, and to my slave, “Do this,” and the slave does it.’ When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, ‘Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. *Matthew 8.5-10*

Unprofessional conduct.

Then the soldiers led Jesus into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him, ‘Hail, King of the Jews!’ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

Mark 15.16-20.

Do not worry about your life

Jesus said to his disciples, I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more. But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten in God's sight. But even the hairs of your head are all counted. Do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Luke 12.4-7, 22-31.

The Prodigal Son

Then Jesus said, ‘There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, “Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.” So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and travelled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, “How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms

around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.” But the father said to his slaves, “Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!” And they began to celebrate. *Luke 15.11-24*

No one has greater love than this.

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. ‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. *John 15.9-14.*

On Easter Day – the Empty Tomb

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?’ When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.’ So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. *Mark 16.1-8*

The Risen Christ Appears

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’ *John 20.19-23*

Jesus Ascends

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’ *Acts 1:8-11*

Pentecost - The Holy Spirit Comes to the Church

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, ‘Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ‘You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’ Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’

Acts 2.1-6, 14, 22-24, 33, 37-39, 41-42

The Greatest Gift is Love

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

1 Corinthians 13

Christ the Servant

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. *Philippians 2.5-11*

Live with gentleness and honour, and know the peace of God.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the

things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. *Philippians 4:5-9*

Clothe yourselves with compassion

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. *Colossians 3-12 15.*

Look after strangers, remember those in prison, do good to all.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13.1-3,14-16*

Pure and peaceable wisdom.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. *James 3.13-18.*

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. All who hate a brother or sister are murderers, and you know that murderers do not have eternal life abiding in them. We know love by this: that Jesus Christ laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. *1 John 3.14-18.*

Service of Remembrance

A hymn may be sung.

The Introduction

The minister says

We are here to worship Almighty God, whose purposes are good; whose power sustains the world he has made; who loves us, though we have failed in his service; who gave Jesus Christ for the life of the world; who by his Holy Spirit leads us in his way. As we give thanks for his great works, we remember those who have lived and died in his service and in the service of others; we pray for all who suffer through war and are in need; we ask for his help and blessing that we may do his will, and that the whole world may acknowledge him as Lord and King.

The Act of Remembrance

All stand while the minister says

Let us remember before God, and commend to his sure keeping: those who have died for their country in war; those whom we knew, and whose memory we treasure; and all who have lived and died in the service of mankind.

Then may be said

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

All **We will remember them.**

*The Last Post **The Silence.** The Reveille.*

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: Hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A hymn may be sung.

Suitable readings:

<i>Song of the Righteous (without refrain)</i>	<i>Wisdom 3.1,2a,3b-8</i>	<i>Page XXX</i>
<i>The Sermon on the Mount</i>	<i>Matthew 5.1-12</i>	<i>Page XXX</i>
<i>No one has greater love than this.</i>	<i>John 15.9-14</i>	<i>Page XXX</i>
<i>The whole Armour of God</i>	<i>Ephesians 6.10-18</i>	<i>Page XXX</i>

Bible Reading

(There may be a second reading)

A hymn may be sung.

(And another hymn)

The Sermon

A hymn may be sung.

Prayers of Intercession

Special intentions may be inserted at appropriate points.

Let us pray for the peace of the world: for statesmen and rulers, that they may have wisdom to know and courage to do what is right; for all who work to improve international relationships, that they may find the true way to reconcile people of different race, colour, and creed; and for men and women the world over, that they may have justice and freedom, and live in security and peace.

Here follows a short silence.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Most gracious God and Father, in whose will is our peace: turn our hearts and the hearts of all to yourself, that by the power of your Spirit the peace which is founded on righteousness may be established throughout the whole world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of war, for the injured and the disabled, for the mentally distressed, and for those whose faith in God and man has been weakened or destroyed; for the homeless and refugees, for those who are hungry, and for all who have lost their livelihood and security; for those who mourn their dead, those who have lost husband or wife, children or parents, and especially for those who have no hope in Christ to sustain them in their grief.

Here follows a short silence.

Lord, in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, infinite in wisdom, love, and power: have compassion on those for whom we pray; and help us to use all suffering in the cause of your kingdom; through him who gave himself for us on the cross, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. **Amen.**

A hymn may be sung and a collection taken for the Earl Haig Fund

If there is no need to perform the Act of Remembrance precisely at 1100Hrs, it may take place here as the climax to the service.

The Act of Commitment

The minister, or some other person appointed, says

Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women: that we may help, encourage, and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

All **Lord God our Father,
we pledge ourselves
to serve you and all mankind,
in the cause of peace,
for the relief of want and suffering,
and for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
give us wisdom;
give us courage;
give us hope;
and keep us faithful
now and always. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence to the Father
in the words our saviour taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

(full text inside front cover)

The National Anthem

**Gd save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen.
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.**

**Thy choicest gifts in store
on her be pleased to pour,
long may she reign:
may she defend our laws,
and ever give us cause
to sing with heart and voice
God save the Queen!**

Blessing

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

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Christmas Carol Service

Carol

Bidding Prayer

We have come together as the family of God in our Father's presence to celebrate the festival of Christmas: we hear and receive the good news of the birth of Christ, and we offer to God our thanksgiving in the joyful singing of carols. But first we pray, that in this festival of light, all folk may be renewed in love and compassion. May the rulers of the nations, the commanders of the armed forces, and the people of all lands work together to establish justice, freedom and peace. May those who control industry and commerce act for the common good, that wealth created may be fairly shared. May opinion formers in education and the media instil in all, a respect for knowledge, a care for the truth, and a love of wisdom. Let us pray for all in special need: the wounded, the sick and the dying, the lonely, the hungry and homeless, the bereaved and those with no hope; and let us commend our families, and all whom we love, to the unfailing mercy of God our Father in heaven. *BE*

These prayers let us bring to the Lord in the words our Saviour taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven . . . (*full text inside front cover*)

May the humility of the shepherds, the faith of the wise men, the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ Child, be God's gift to us and to all humankind, this Christmas and always. **Amen.**

Carol

Reading One *Isaiah Foretells the Birth of the Prince of Peace*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Isaiah 9.2,6-7

Carol

Reading Two

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. *Luke 2.1-8*

Carol

Reading Three

St Luke tells of the Angels visit

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. *Luke 2.8-18*

Carol

Reading Four

St Matthew tells the story of the Wise Men

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by

no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. *Matthew 2.1-12*

Carol

Prayers *(Either of these prayers is said, and a dismissal.)*

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and live in his peace, that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord, by the song of the angels you disclose your birth to your own people, and by the leading of a star you revealed your glory to strangers. Teach us to know you now, and to make you known to all. **Amen**

Dismissal

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be ours this Christmas;

A lay leader finishes with this grace:

and Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us always. **Amen.**

A chaplain finishes with this blessing.

and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Carol

This order may be extended by adding these readings, and more carols.

Reading Zero *Prepare the Way of the Lord* *Isaiah 40.1-5 page XXX*

Reading Five *The Word made Flesh* *John 1.1-14 page XXX*

Christmas Prayers

Collect for Christmas Midnight

Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Christmas Morning

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
let us pray for the people he came to save.

Wonderful Counsellor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations: ①

Mighty God, make the whole world know
that the government is on your shoulders: ①

Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness: ①

Prince of Peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace: ①

Free prayer may be offered and silence kept.

Let us commend the world, to which Christ came,
to the mercy and protection of God this day.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of heaven and earth, to you be praise and glory for ever. Today your living Word, eternal in the heavens, assumes the frailty of our mortal flesh to raise our human nature to your right hand on high. As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us, let the light of your love be born in us today. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Preface

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God. We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us. In this mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see. Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Palm Sunday

The Service begins with the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem in triumph.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Behold your king comes to you, O Zion, meek and lowly, sitting upon an ass. Ride on in the cause of truth and for the sake of justice. Your throne is the throne of God, it endures for ever; and the sceptre of, your kingdom is a righteous sceptre. You have loved righteousness and hated evil: therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

Hosanna to the Son of David.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again. Let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings, we may share his risen life.

The people hold up their palms or other branches while this prayer is said.

God our Saviour, whose Son Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem as Messiah to suffer and to die, let these palms be for us signs of his victory; and grant that we who bear them in his name may ever hail him as our King, and follow him in the way that leads to eternal life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Palm Sunday Story

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, "Why are you doing this?" just say this, "The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately."' They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, some of the bystanders said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who

comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ *Mark 11.1-10*

(Let us go forth, praising Jesus our Messiah.)

Palm Sunday Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards mankind sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Reading: Christ the Servant Philippians 2:1-5 page XXX

Hymn or Canticle The Passion is now read. These prayers may follow:

We stand with Christ in his suffering.

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus, let us pray to the Lord. ® *The response is: Lord, have mercy.*

For grace to seek out those habits of sin which mean spiritual death, and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them, let us pray to the Lord. ®

For Christian people, that through the suffering of disunity there may grow a rich union in Christ, let us pray to the Lord. ®

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them, that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy, let us pray to . . . ®

For those who still make Jerusalem a battle-ground, let us pray to . . . ®

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord. ®

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation, that they may find support and encouragement, let us pray to the Lord. ®

For those, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow, feel that God is far from them, let us pray to the Lord. ®

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross, let us pray . . . ®

That we, with those who have died in faith, may find mercy in the day of Christ, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

The prayers of intercession above may be used at other times.

The Eucharist may begin at the peace, or the service may end with:

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

This collect may be said after communion.

Good Friday

*Divine Service or Daily Prayer for Friday are used
with The Passion for the reading.*

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Narrator: Hear the passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

Narrator: Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to a place where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered. Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples. So Judas brought a detachment of soldiers together with police from the chief priests and the Pharisees, and they came there with lanterns and torches and weapons. Then Jesus, knowing all that was to happen to him, came forward and asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Narrator: They answered,

***Soldiers:* Jesus of Nazareth.**

Narrator: Jesus replied,

Jesus: I am he.

Narrator: Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. When Jesus said to them, 'I am he,' they stepped back and fell to the ground. Again he asked them,

Jesus: Whom are you looking for?

Narrator: And they said,

***Soldiers:* Jesus of Nazareth.**

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: I told you that I am he. So if you are looking for me, let these men go.

Narrator: This was to fulfil the word that he had spoken, 'I did not lose a single one of those whom you gave me.' Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

Jesus: Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

Narrator: So the soldiers, their officer, and the Jewish police arrested

Jesus and bound him. First they took him to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was better to have one person die for the people. Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest, but Peter was standing outside at the gate. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who guarded the gate, and brought Peter in. The woman said to Peter,

Woman: You are not also one of this man's disciples, are you?

Narrator: Peter said,

Peter: I am not.

Narrator: Now the slaves and the police had made a charcoal fire because it was cold, and they were standing around it and warming themselves. Peter also was standing with them and warming himself. Then the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his teaching. Jesus answered,

Jesus: I have spoken openly to the world; I have always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where all the Jews come together. I have said nothing in secret. Why do you ask me? Ask those who heard what I said to them; they know what I said.

Narrator: When he had said this, one of the police standing nearby struck Jesus on the face, saying,

Soldier: Is that how you answer the high priest?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong. But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?

Narrator: Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They asked him,

***Soldiers* You are not also one of his disciples, are you?**

Narrator: Peter denied it and said,

Peter: I am not.

Narrator: One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked,

Slave: Did I not see you in the garden with him?

Narrator: Again Peter denied it, and at that moment the cock crowed. Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. So Pilate went out to them and said,

Pilate: What accusation do you bring against this man?

Narrator: They answered,

***Chief Priests:* If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.**

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.

Narrator: The Jews replied,

***Chief Priests:* We are not permitted to put anyone to death.**

Priests:

Narrator: (This was to fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.) Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him,

Pilate: Are you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?

Narrator: Pilate replied,

Pilate: I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.

Narrator: Pilate asked him,

Pilate: So you are a king?

Narrator: Jesus answered,

Jesus: You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.

Narrator: Pilate asked him,

Pilate: What is truth?

Narrator: After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told

them,

Pilate: I find no case against him. But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?

Narrator: They shouted in reply,

***Chief* Not this man, but Barabbas!**

Priests:

Narrator: Now Barabbas was a bandit. Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him, saying,

***Soldiers:* Hail, King of the Jews!**

Narrator: and striking him on the face. Pilate went out again and said to them,

Pilate: Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.

Narrator: So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Here is the man!

Narrator: When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted,

***Priests* Crucify him! Crucify him!**

Soldiers:

Narrator: Pilate said to them,

Pilate: Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.

Narrator: The Jews answered him,

***Chief* We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die**

***Priests:* because he has claimed to be the Son of God.**

Narrator: Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus,

Pilate: Where are you from?

Narrator: But Jesus gave him no answer. Pilate therefore said to him,

Pilate: Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?

Narrator: Jesus answered him,

Jesus: You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you

is guilty of a greater sin.

Narrator: From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out,

Chief **If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor.**

Priests: **Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor.**

Narrator: When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. Pilate said to the Jews,

Pilate: Here is your King!

Narrator: They cried out,

Chief **Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!**

Prësts:

Narrator: Pilate asked them,

Pilate: Shall I crucify your King?

Narrator: The chief priests answered,

Chief **We have no king but the emperor.**

Priests:

Narrator: Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha. There they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side, with Jesus between them. Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross. It read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.' Many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek. Then the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

Chief **Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but,**

Priests: **'This man said, I am King of the Jews.'**

Narrator: Pilate answered,

Pilate: What I have written I have written.

Narrator: When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another,

Soldiers: **Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it.**

Narrator: This was to fulfil what the scripture says, 'They divided my

clothes among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.’ And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother,

Jesus: Woman, here is your son.

Narrator: Then he said to the disciple,

Jesus: Here is your mother.

Narrator: And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home. After this, when Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (in order to fulfil the scripture),

Jesus: I am thirsty.

Narrator: A jar full of sour wine was standing there. So they put a sponge full of the wine on a branch of hyssop and held it to his mouth. When Jesus had received the wine, he said,

Jesus: It is finished.

Narrator: Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Since it was the day of Preparation, the Jews did not want the bodies left on the cross during the Sabbath, especially because that Sabbath was a day of great solemnity. So they asked Pilate to have the legs of the crucified men broken and the bodies removed. Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who had been crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. Instead, one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out. (He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows that he tells the truth.) These things occurred so that the scripture might be fulfilled, ‘None of his bones shall be broken.’ And again another passage of scripture says, ‘They will look on the one whom they have pierced.’

After these things, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came,

bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The Good Friday Service may finish abruptly with this Collect and ending, or the Friday resources may be freely used.

The Good Friday Collect

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All **Because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world**

The glorious passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
brings us to the joys of paradise.

All depart in silence.

Practical Notes

*The arrest, trial and crucifixion of Jesus is told in dramatic form by assigning readers to these parts: 1.Narrator. 2. Jesus. 3.Soldiers. 4.The chief priests. (Or the congregation may together say the chorus lines in **bold type**.) Some or all of the following roles may be shared:*

5.Peter, 6 Pontius Pilate, 7 A woman, 8 A soldier, 9 A slave.

This text may be read simply with a few in a circle, or more formally in a larger gathering

Collects and Prayers

These Ordinary Time and Seasonal Collects may be used in place of the collect for the day. When a collect is addressed to God the Father, the longer ending may be added: – “through . . . who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen.”

Ordinary Time 1 (For more see the Methodist Rite page XXX)

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Ordinary Time 2

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ordinary Time 3

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Ordinary Time 4

Almighty God, by whose grace alone we are accepted and called to your service: strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of our calling; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Ordinary Time 5

O God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion upon the anguish of the world and, by thy healing power, make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Ordinary Time 6

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Advent

Stir up your power, O God, and come among us. Heal our wounds, calm our fears and give us peace; through Jesus our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Christmas

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift to the world of our Redeemer; as we sing your glory in these holy days, so may we know his presence in our hearts, who is our Saviour and our Lord, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Epiphany

King of kings and Lord of lords, making the true light to shine: lighten our darkness now and evermore that with our lips and in our lives we may praise you; for you are our God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lent

Almighty God, may we, by the prayer and discipline of Lent, enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings; that by following in the Way, we may come to share in the glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Passiontide

Almighty God, as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son, help us to see and know your love for us, so that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Eastertide

Almighty God, by triumphing over the powers of darkness Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem: may we, who this day give thanks for his resurrection, praise him in the eternal city of which he is the light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pentecost

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Trinity

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.**

Christ the King (and Ascensiontide)

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Before Advent – Remembrancetide

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessed Virgin Mary

Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Any Saint

Almighty Father, you have built up your Church through the love and devotion of your saints: inspire us to follow the example of *N*, whom we commemorate today, that we in our generation may rejoice with *him/her* in the vision of your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

St David – Patron Saint of Wales - 1 March

Almighty God, who called your servant David to be a faithful and wise steward of your mysteries for the people of Wales: in your mercy, grant that, following his purity of life and zeal for the gospel of Christ, we may with him receive the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Hollalluog Dduw, a elwaist dy was Dewi, yn dy gariad at dy bobl, i fod yn oruchwyliwr ffyddlon a doeth ar dy ddirgeleddau: yn drugarog canjata fod i ni, gan dderbyn purdeb ei fuchedd a'i sel dros Efengyl Crist, dderbyn gydag ef dy wobr nefol; trwy Iesu Grist ein Harglwydd, y bo iddo gyda thi a'r Ysbryd Glan bob anrhydedd a gogoniant, byth bythoedd. **Amen.**

St Patrick – Patron Saint of Ireland - 17 March

Almighty God, who in your providence chose your servant Patrick to be the apostle of the Irish people: keep alive in us the fire of the faith he kindled and strengthen us in our pilgrimage towards the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

St George – Patron Saint of England - 23 March

God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: give us the same faith and power of love that we who rejoice in his triumphs may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

St Andrew – Patron Saint of Scotland - 30 November

Almighty God, who gave such grace to your apostle Saint Andrew that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ and brought his brother with him: call us by your holy word, and give us grace to follow you without delay and to tell the good news of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

General Prayers

A Morning Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you that you have brought us safely to the beginning of this day. Keep us from falling into sin or running into danger, order us in all our doings and guide us to do always what is righteous in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Evening Collect

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

A Night Collect

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.**

For Peace in our hearts

God, the God of eternal peace, whose reward is the gift of peace, and whose children are the peacemakers; Pour your peace into our hearts that conflict and discord may vanish, and our love and desire be always for your peace; through Jesus Christ our lord. **Amen** *Mozarabic Liturgy*

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The State Prayers

A Prayer for the Sovereign

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the Royal Family

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless, we pray, Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales, and all the Royal Family. Endue them with your Holy Spirit; enrich them with your heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Those who Govern

Eternal God, fount and source of all authority and wisdom, hear our prayer for those who govern. Give to Elizabeth our Queen grace as the symbol of loyalty and unity for all our different peoples; give to the parliaments in these islands, and especially to our own Government, wisdom and skill, imagination and energy; give to the members of the European institutions vision, understanding and integrity, that all may live in peace and happiness, truth and prosperity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers for the Church and the World

A Prayer for Bishops and other Pastors

Almighty and everlasting God, the only worker of great marvels, send down upon our bishops and other pastors and all congregations committed to their care the spirit of your saving grace; and that they may truly please you, pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honour of our advocate and mediator, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

For the Unity of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles, 'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you': look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom; where you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

For the Peace of the World

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen**

In Time of Trouble

Sovereign God, the defence of those who trust in you and the strength of those who suffer: look with mercy on our affliction and deliver us through our mighty Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

For Social Justice and Responsibility

Eternal God, in whose perfect realm no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, and no strength known but the strength of love: so guide and inspire the work of those who seek your kingdom that all your people may find their security in that love which casts out fear and in the fellowship revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

For the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

God, who from of old taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour. **Amen**

Family Prayers

For absent loved ones

Heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and earth is named: we entrust to your love and care the members of our families wherever they may be. Supply their needs and guide their steps; keep them safe in body and soul; and let your peace rest upon us all. **Amen**

For married persons

Gracious and loving God, look with kindness upon *N and N* (or all married persons): through your grace, may they hold on to each other, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish; till death brings them to the joys of your eternal kingdom, which you promise to all who live in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *BE*

For family Life

Faithful, and loving God, creator of all good things, give to *(family names)* / *all families* wisdom and devotion in ordering their lives together. May they dwell together in love and peace, seeking one another's welfare, bearing one another's burdens, and sharing one another's joys; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For parents and all who care for children

God our Father, we pray to you for *(Parents or other carers name(s) and)* all who have the care of children. Guide them with your Holy Spirit, that they may bring them up in the ways of truth and love. Through their care enable them to grow in grace and become daily more like your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

On the birth of a child

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the birth of *(Child's Name)* surround *him/her* with your blessing that *he/she* may know your love, be protected from evil, and know goodness all *his/her* days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For a stillborn Child

God our creator, from whom all life comes, comfort this *family/mother/father* grieving for the loss of their hoped - for child. Help them to find assurance that with you nothing is wasted or incomplete, and uphold them with your love, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen**

When a child has died

God of all grace and comfort, we thank you for *(Child's Name)*, and for the place *he/she* held in our hearts. We thank you for the love in which *he/she* was conceived and the care which *he/she* was surrounded. As we remember times of tears and laughter, we thank you for the love we shared because of *him/her* reflecting the love which you poured upon us, in your son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For prayers on the death of an adult see Pastoral Section Page XXX

For Schools and Colleges

Almighty God, you are the source of truth, and your Spirit leads us into all truth: may all who teach and learn in or schools, colleges and universities be set free from everything that may hinder their search for truth; and finding truth, may they learn to use it for the good of all mankind, and for your greater glory. **Amen.**

For the Presence of Christ in our homes - Mothering Sunday Prayer

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers from the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland

For New Year

Eternal God, your everlasting mercy rises new in the morning of another year. Give us grace to arise with Christ who is our morning light. In this new year of our life's journey, may we walk by faith in him, and with a willing spirit persevere to the end; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For harvest

God of faithfulness, your generous love supplies us with the fruits of the earth in their seasons. Give us grace to be thankful for your gifts, to use them wisely, and to share our plenty with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

At the time of an election

Almighty God, you are the source of wisdom and justice. Guide those who at this time are called to choose representatives to serve in the High Court of Parliament (or the Council of this Region or District), that they may cast their vote with a true sense of their responsibility. Give those who are elected the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, that they may provide conditions for a good and honest life for all the people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In times of industrial unrest or local dispute

God of righteousness, you have taught us through your Son to set our minds on your kingdom and justice before all things. Grant that in us and in others suspicion may give place to trust, and stridency to peace, that we may live and work together in unity and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

After a disaster

Gracious God, through your Son you have taught us that nothing in life or in death is able to separate us from your love. Look in mercy on all in sorrow. Help those who are injured and support those who are dying. Strengthen the members of the emergency services, and all who bring relief and comfort. Console and protect those who have lost loved ones. Give your light in darkness to all who are near to despair, and assure them that you hold all souls in life; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers For Protection and Peace

For the protection of an individual

Almighty God, heavenly Father, breathe your Holy Spirit into the heart of this your servant *N* and inspire *him/her* with love for goodness and truth. May *he/she*, fearing only you, have no other fear; knowing your compassion, be ever mindful of your love; and serving you faithfully unto death, live eternally with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the protection of a place

Visit, Lord, we pray, this place and drive far from it all the snares of the enemy. Let your holy angels dwell here to keep us in peace, and may your blessing be upon it evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the protection of our homes and families

Almighty God, Father of all mankind: defend our homes against evil; surround them with your presence, make them sanctuaries of your peace and joy. Bless those dear to us, wherever they may be. Bring us home, and re-unite us in the shelter of your love, until we come at last to make our home with you, our Father in Heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BE, adapted from BCO

A Prayer on the Passion

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, set your passion, cross and death between your judgement and our souls, now and in the hour of our death. Grant mercy and grace to the living, rest to the departed, to your Church peace and concord and to us sinners forgiveness, and everlasting life and glory; for, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you are alive and reign, God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

An Armenian Orthodox Dismissal

Keep us in peace, O Christ our God, under the protection of your holy and venerable cross; save us from our enemies, visible and invisible, and count us worthy to glorify you with thanksgiving, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever, world without end. **Amen.**

An Ending

May the Lord bless us,
may he deliver us from all evil,
and keep us in life eternal. **Amen.**

Prayers for the Armed Forces

For the Armed Forces

Almighty God, stretch forth your mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces: grant that meeting danger with courage and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, *we/they* may truly serve the cause of justice and peace; to the honour of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

For the Forces of the Crown

From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland

Almighty God, in you alone we find safety and peace. We commend to your gracious keeping all the men and women who serve in the Navy, the Army, or the Air Force, who face danger and put their lives at risk so that others might live in safety. Defend them day by day by your heavenly power; and help them to know that they can never pass beyond the reach of your care. Keep alive in them and in us your vision of that peace which alone we must seek and serve; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Royal Army Chaplains' Department

Blessed God, who has committed the glorious Gospel to our trust, have mercy upon the Royal Army Chaplains' Department and grant that we may never glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, but in all things may approve ourselves as *your* ministers, through the same *your* Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

A prayer before a mission

O Lord, you know how busy I must be this day. (*night*)
If I forget you, do not forget me. **Amen**

*Sir Jacob Astley,
before the Battle of Edgehill, 1642*

In time of war

From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland

God of infinite mercy, we trust in your good purposes of peace for all your children. We pray for those who at this time face danger in the defence of justice. Watch over those in peril; support those who are anxious for loved ones; gather into your eternal purpose those who will die. Remove from the hearts of all people the passions that keep alive the spirit of war, and in your goodness restore peace among us; for the sake of the Prince of peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving for peace and for deliverance in any danger

From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland

Almighty God, you are our refuge and our stronghold, a timely help in trouble. We give you praise and thanks for our deliverance from those great dangers which threatened (*or encompassed*) us, (*and for your precious gift of peace*). Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be glory, for your goodness alone kept and preserved us. Continue your mercies to us, we pray, that we may always acknowledge that you are our Saviour and our mighty deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

An Indian Prayer

Christaraksha - to be said individually or collectively.

May the cross of the Son of God, which is mightier than all the hosts of Satan and more glorious than all the hosts of heaven, abide with *me/us* in *my/our* going out and in *my/our* coming in. By day and by night, at morning and at evening, at all times and in all places may it protect and defend *me/us* From the wrath of evildoers, from the assaults of evil spirits, from foes visible and invisible, from the snares of the devil, from all passions that beguile the soul and body: may it guard, protect and deliver *me/us*. **Amen.**

Greek and Russian Orthodox Prayers

The Tris-hagion - The Three-Times-Holy *Say three times.*

Holy God, Holy and mighty, Holy and immortal: have mercy upon us.

The Jesus Prayer – repeat often.

Jesus, have mercy on me, a sinner.

See also the Russian Contakion page XXX

A Pope's Prayer: Hear my voice, Lord

Prayer of Pope John Paul II for Justice and Peace

To you, Creator of nature and humanity,
of truth and beauty, I pray:

Hear my voice,
for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence
among individuals and nations.

Hear my voice,
for it is the voice
of all children who suffer and who will suffer
when people put their faith in weapons and war.

Hear my voice
when I beg you to instil
into the hearts of all human beings
the vision of peace,
the strength of justice
and the joy of fellowship.

Hear my voice,
for I speak for the multitudes
in every country and in every period of history
who do not want war
and are ready to walk the road of peace.

Hear my voice
and grant insight and strength
so that we may always respond
to hatred with love,
to injustice with total dedication to justice,
to need with the sharing of self,
to war with peace.

O God, hear my voice,
and grant to the world your everlasting peace.

Hiroshima, Japan, 1981

Jewish Prayers

On The Eve Of Sabbath

Father of mercy, continue, we pray, your loving-kindness to us all. Make us worthy to walk in the way of the righteous before you, loyal to your Law and clinging to good deeds. Keep far from us all manner of shame, grief and care; and grant that peace, light and joy ever abide in our home; for with you is the fountain of life, and in your light do we see light.

Amen.

For a sick or wounded person

O Lord God, you are gracious and merciful; you spread your wings of protection and tender care over all your creatures; you heal the sick and bind up their wounds. Receive, we beseech you, our humble petitions on behalf of *N*, who is confined to a bed of sickness. Send *him*, O God, your healing, that *he* may speedily recover from the illness that has come upon *him*. Sustain *his* spirit, relieve *his* pain, and restore *him* to perfect health, happiness and usefulness. Instil into *his* impaired body the balm of Gilead that he may be able to bear testimony to your everlasting mercy and love, for you, O Lord, are a faithful and merciful healer. **Amen.**

Kaddish – Prayer of a Jewish Mourner

Magnified and sanctified be the great name of God in the world which he created according to his will. May he establish his Kingdom in your life and in your days, and in the lifetime of all his people: quickly and speedily may it come; and let us say Amen. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed, praised and glorified, exalted, extolled and honoured, magnified and lauded be the name of the Holy One; blessed be God! Though he be high above all the blessings and hymns, praises and consolations, which are uttered in the world; and let us say Amen! **Blessed be God for ever.**

May there be abundant peace from heaven and life for us and for all people; let us say Amen. **Blessed be God for ever.**

By Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks

Sovereign of the universe, be always with us as we seek to know your work and do your will: let your unity inspire us to love one another as your children; let the diversity you have made teach us to respect the diversity of human cultures and faiths, each a different language through which we hear your voice; and let us never forget the task with which you charged us, to make this world a home for your presence, and our lives a celebration of your gift of life. **Amen.**

Jewish Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord shine his face upon you. May he show you his loving kindness and bring you peace. **Amen.**

Islamic Prayers

In the name of God, who is merciful: All praise be to God, who is the Lord of everything. We serve no one but you, our God, and you are the only one to whom we turn for help. Keep us away from the path of those who stray from you. Guide us instead on the way we should go on the path of those whom you have blessed.

I thank you, Lord, for knowing me better than I know myself,
and for letting me know myself better than others know me.
Make me, I pray you, better than they suppose,
and forgive me for what they do not know.

Abu Bekr, Father-in-law of Mohamed

For all that we *should* have thought and have not thought;
For all that we *should* have said and have not said;
For all that we *should* have done, and have not done;
we ask forgiveness, Lord.

For all that we should *not* have thought, but have thought;
For all that we should *not* have said but have said;
For all that we should *not* have done, but have done;
we ask forgiveness, Lord.

Lord, may the end of my life be the best part of my life.
May my closing acts be my best acts,
and may the best day of my life be the day when I shall meet you.

Jews, Christians and Muslims (the people of Islam) share a common belief in the One God who is revealed in the Hebrew or Jewish Scriptures, which Christians call the Old Testament of the Bible. For this reason Muslims call all three groups "The People of the Book". The God of Abraham, Jesus and Mohamed is the same. That is very clear.

In Eastern Religions like Hinduism and Buddhism the idea of god, or "the gods", is very different. The two texts below, however, can surely be said as prayers to the One God, who is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of Israel and of Islam.

Hindu Prayer

From untruth lead us to Truth.
From darkness lead us to Light.
From death lead us to Immortality.
O Lord of Peace, Peace, Peace.

Ancient Vedic Prayer

Buddhist Meditation

May I be filled with loving kindness.
May I be well.
May I be peaceful and at ease.
May I be happy.

Ancient Tibetan Meditation

Prayers in Welsh and English

<p>Bydd Di o Dduw yn fflam ddisglair o'm blaen, Yn seren uwchben i'm harwain Yn lwybr gwastad i'm troed Yn fugail gofalus tu cefn Heddiw, heno ac am byth. Amen</p>	<p>Be a bright flame before me, O God, a guiding star above me Be a smooth path below me, a kindly shepherd behind me today, tonight, and for ever. Amen</p>
<p>Cariad Crist amgylcha ni Goleuni Crist arwain ni Tangnefedd Crist llenwa ni Nerth Crist cymorth ni Llawennydd Crist gwefreiddia ni Presenoldeb Crist aros gyda ni. Amen</p>	<p>The love of Christ surround us The light of Christ lead us The peace of Christ fill us The power of Christ aid us The Joy of Christ thrill us The presence of Christ be with us evermore. Amen</p>
<p>O fwrlwm bywyd tywys fi, Arglwydd, I'r llecyn tawel Allan o'r dwndwr diball I'th lonyddwch mawr dibaid. Bydd Di'n gymorth i mi, O fy Arglwydd, I amgyffred fy hun fel yr wyf ac fel y dylwn fod. Amen</p>	<p>Take me Lord, from busy-ness To the place of quietness From the tumult without cease Into your great unending peace. Help me then, my Lord to see What I am and ought to be. Amen</p>
<p>Arglwydd, cymorth ni i fod yn ystyriol o'n gilydd; Cynorthwya ni i wrando ar ein gilydd; Cynorthwya ni i weithio er ein gilydd; Cynorthwya ni i garu'n gilydd; y cyfan er dy fwyn Di. Amen</p>	<p>Lord, help us to feel for each other; Help us to listen to each other; Help us to work for each other; Help us to love each other; all for your sake. Amen.</p>
<p>Dduw, sy'n dioddef gyda'r rhai sy'n dioddef, cysura dy bobl gan roi iddynt obaith; dyro nerth i ni i herio drygioni ac anghyfiawnder, fel, wrth i ni dosturio wrth y rhai sydd mewn angen, y datguddir Crist i'r holl bobl Amen</p>	<p>God, suffering with the world's suffering, comforting your people and bringing hope; give us strength to challenge evil and injustice, that as we bring compassion to those in need, Christ may be revealed to all people. Amen</p>

From the Mothers' Union in Wales

Prayers from Catholic Spirituality

Memorial Of The Incarnation

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings to Mary

And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessèd are you among women,
and blessèd is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now, and at the hour of our death.**

‘Behold, the handmaid of the Lord;

Let it be to me according to your word.’

Hail Mary . . .

The Word was made flesh

And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary . . .

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: We beseech you, O Lord, to pour your grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross and passion we may be brought to the glory of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*This “Angelus” is traditionally observed at dawn,
midday and sunset from after Pentecost to Maundy Thursday.*

Memorial Of The Resurrection (Sing to “Jesus Christ is risen today”)

Queen of heaven, rejoice this day. Alleluia!

He whom you were called to bear, Alleluia!

As he promised has arisen. Alleluia!

Pour for us, to God, your prayer. Alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia!

For the Lord has risen indeed. Alleluia!

Let us pray: O God, who by the resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, brought joy to the whole world: grant that, aided by the prayers of his Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may know the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

This “Regina Cœli” is traditionally observed at dawn, midday and sunset from Easter Day until Pentecost

General Intercessions

Common Worship

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen N our bishop and all your Church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. ⑩

Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honour one another, and seek the common good. ⑩

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us. ⑩

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit ...; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation. ⑩

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ ...; according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom. ⑩

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [N and of] all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love. ⑩

Silence may be kept and a Collect or other ending may be said.

Collects to end intercessions

Heavenly Father, you have promised through your Son Jesus Christ, that when we meet in his name, and pray according to his mind, he will be among us and hear our prayer: in your love and mercy fulfil our desires, and give us your greatest gift, which is to know you, the only true God, and your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our needs before we ask, and our ignorance in asking: have compassion on our weakness, and give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God, you have promised to hear the prayers of those who ask in your Son's name; we pray that what we have asked faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Common Order

For the peace of the world, the welfare of the Church, the unity of all people: let us pray to the Lord. ® **Lord have mercy.**

For the Queen and her government, the leaders of the world, and all in authority: let us pray to the Lord. ® **Lord have mercy.**

For those who are oppressed, or destitute, or hungry, and for those who are unemployed: let us pray to the Lord. ® **Lord have mercy.**

For those whom we love, at home or far away, neighbours and friends and colleagues at work, all those whose lives are closely linked with ours: let us pray to the Lord. ® **Lord have mercy.**

For the glory of your name, O God, turn us from all that is evil, and grant us grace to put our whole trust and confidence in your loving purpose for the world. Strengthen us by your Spirit to serve you with a willing heart and a cheerful spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Methodist Worship

God, most gracious and most holy, grant us the help of your Spirit as we pray for the Church and the world.

We pray for the Church in every land . . .for this church and for other local churches . . .that we may worship and serve you with reverence and joy. ®

We pray for the peoples of the world . . .and for the leaders of the nations . . .that all may work together for justice and peace. ®

We pray for those who are ill or distressed . . .for the lonely and the bereaved . . .and for those in any other need or trouble . . .that they may be comforted and sustained. ®

Father, we remember before you all your servants who have died in the faith of Christ . . . ®

We pray that we too may lead faithful and godly lives in this world, and finally share with all the saints in everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collects of the British Armed Forces

The Collects of the Royal Navy

The Royal Navy

O Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the seas who has compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end be pleased to receive into thy Almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us thy servants, and the Fleet which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea and of the air, and from the violence of the enemy; that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth and her Dominions, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our Island and Commonwealth may in peace and quietness serve thee our God; and that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to praise and glorify thy Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Marines

O Eternal Lord God, who through many generations has united and inspired the members of our Corps, grant thy blessing, we beseech thee, on Royal Marines serving all round the globe. Bestow thy crown of righteousness upon all our efforts and endeavours, and may our laurels be those of gallantry and honour, loyalty and courage. We ask these things in the name of him whose courage never failed, our Redeemer Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Regimental Collects of the British Army

Printed in order of precedence.

The Life Guards

O Everliving God, King of Kings, in whose service we put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation, grant we beseech thee that The Life Guards may be faithful unto death, and at last receive the crown of life from Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Blues and Royals

O Lord Jesus Christ who by the Holy Apostle has called us to put on the armour of God and to take the sword of the spirit, give thy grace we pray thee, to the Blues and Royals that we may fight manfully under thy banner against all evil, and waiting on thee to renew our strength, may mount up with wings as eagles, in thy name, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Royal Armoured Corps

Almighty God, who art our defence and our castle, grant to the Royal Armoured Corps that putting on the whole armour of God they may go forth through the earth eager to do thee service with courage and faith, and never be separated from thy grace or divided among themselves, through Jesus Christ Our Lord to whom, with the Father and Holy Spirit one blessed and eternal Trinity, be glory for ever. Amen.

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards

O Lord God, whose throne is in heaven and whose eyes behold the children of men, grant that as thy prophet saw the valiant horse eager to go forth through the earth on thy service, so may the Queen's Dragoon Guards, united in keeping thy Royal Law and thinking no evil in their hearts, ever seek to serve their Sovereign and their native land in thee and for thee, who art one God, world without end. Amen.

The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards

Almighty God, whose blessed Son, Jesus Christ, gave us a perfect pattern of service, give us grace that we, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, may be second to none in following his example, swifter than eagles to overtake his enemies and serve thee in thine everlasting Kingdom, through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen

The Queen's Royal Hussars

Almighty God, whose perfect love casteth out fear, remember in thy great goodness the Queen's Royal Hussars and all who serve with us. Keep us mindful of former valour, and grant us thy grace, that whatsoever our minds and hands shall find to do for thee, we may endure hardships as thy good and faithful soldiers, and so enter into thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

9th/12th Royal Lancers

O Eternal God, grant to us, thy servants of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers, strength, guidance, courage and steadfast Faith, that we may ever serve thee truly; and finally by thy mercy attain everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord Amen

The King's Royal Hussars

Almighty God, by whose power and in whose mercy we are shielded from danger and pardoned when we have done wrong, help us all, as members of the King's Royal Hussars, to find in our service in the Regiment a sure way of serving thee. Help us to dedicate our lives in that we may live for others rather than ourselves, and grant that through the power of the Holy Spirit we may be steadfast in duty, patient in hardship and bold at all times to declare the truth in the name of him who loves us and died for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Light Dragoons

Almighty God, who givest more than we desire or deserve, grant to us the Light Dragoons, that we who strive for our Queen and country may serve thee with one heart and mind, in true fellowship with each other. And grant that we may never count the cost but in all things loyally fulfil thy Royal Law and at the last attain the glory of thy salvation; this we ask through the merit of him who is the Resurrection and the Life, even our Lord Jesus Christ Amen.

The Queen's Royal Lancers

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, grant (we pray) to thy faithful soldiers of the Queen's Royal Lancers thy strength and courage; that united in our duty to pursue thy peace, we may at the last pass through death to thy eternal glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord Amen.

The Royal Tank Regiment

Almighty God, whose perfect love casteth out fear, mercifully grant that thy servants of the Royal Tank Regiment may fear naught but to fall from thy favour, for his sake, in whom thou art well pleased, thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Regiment of Artillery

O Lord Jesus Christ, who dost everywhere lead thy people in the way of righteousness, vouchsafe so to lead the Royal Regiment of Artillery that wherever we serve, on land or sea or in the air, we may win the glory of doing thy will. Amen.

The Royal Engineers

O God, whose righteousness is exceeding glorious, may it please thee to send out thy light and thy truth to lead us thy servants of the Corps of Royal Engineers that everywhere we may be enabled to do our duty, and so may glorify thee our Father in Heaven, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Corps of Signals

Almighty God, whose messengers go forth in every age giving light and understanding grant that we of the Royal Corps of Signals, who speed the word of man to man, may be swift and sure in sending the message of thy truth into all the world. May we serve thee faithfully and, with the help of thy Holy Spirit, make such success of our soldierly duties on this earth that we may be found worthy to receive the crown of life hereafter, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Grenadier Guards

O God grant that thy servants, the Grenadier Guards, may ever be mindful of their proud and costly heritage, that continuing to guard what is right, and fighting for what is just, they may so serve thee here in this life that they may be counted worthy to join those who now continue their service in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Coldstream Guards

Eternal Lord, beside whom there is no God, keep, we pray thee, the Coldstream Guards second to none in loyal duty to thine only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with Thee, O Father and with the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth one God, world without end Amen

The Scots Guards

Almighty God, whose blessed Son did say unto Saint Andrew "Follow me", grant that the Scots Guards, who wear the Cross of thy Holy Apostle, may follow thy Son with impunity; be made stronger in brotherhood and fierce against all enemies of our Saviour, ever going forward under the leadership of him, who by the hard and painful way of the cross, won high conquest and great glory, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Irish Guards

Almighty God, who through the glory of the eternal Trinity hast inspired men in every age to love and serve thee, and hast promised that none shall be separated from thy love who truly trust in thee; we beseech thee thou wouldst keep thy servants the Irish Guards steadfast in this faith, that they may show it forth not only with their lips but in their lives, who livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen

The Welsh Guards

O Lord God, who hast given us the land of our fathers for our inheritance, help thy servants, the Welsh Guards, to keep thy laws as our heritage for ever, until we come to that better and heavenly country which thou hast prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Arglwdd Dduw, a roddaist i ni wlad ein tadau yn draftadaeth, cynorthwya dy weision, y Gwarchodlu Cymreig, i gadw Dy ddeddfau yn etifeddiaeth inni dros fyth, nes y down i'r wlad well a nefol a baratoaist i ni, trwy Iesu Grist ein Harglwydd

The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

O Lord Jesus Christ, who art the first and the last, grant, we pray thee, that, as thou hast promised to be with us even unto the end of the world, so may the Royal Scots be the first to follow thee and the last to forsake thee, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen

The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment

Almighty God, the strength of those who put their trust in thee and the hope of those who serve and follow thee; grant to the members of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment such a measure of thy grace that in both peace and war they may win thy favour, and with courage and loyalty faithfully serve their Queen and country, upholding those noble traditions of which they are the proud inheritors. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The King's Own Royal Border Regiment

O Lord Jesus, who has called all men to serve thee; give thy grace, we pray thee, to the King's Own Royal Border Regiment; that we may come at last to thine everlasting kingdom who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest for ever. Amen.

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers

O God our guide from of old, grant that wherever thy servants of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers are called upon to serve, we may follow the example of thy servant St George and ever prove steadfast in Faith and valiant in Battle, through him who is the Captain of our Salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The King's Regiment

O Thou who didst begin to build the Kingdom of God upon earth through a company of men, grant that we who are Kingsmen may never cease to be thy servants, who art the King of Kings; make us true to thee, and guard us with thy love. Then shall no difficulties daunt us, for we shall be thy soldiers and thou shalt be our God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Anglian Regiment

O Lord God, who by the brightness of a star didst lead men to the Saviour of mankind; give thy grace to the Royal Anglian Regiment, that trusting in thee as our strong rock and castle, we may in unity with thee and with one another rightly serve our Sovereign and our native land, and at the last be led by thy mercy to thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment

O Christ, our Redeemer, the sure stronghold of each succeeding age; grant that we, who now bear arms in the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment may endure, as our Fathers did before us with steadfast courage. Lead us in every quarter of the earth; that we not only honour and proclaim thy name, but also serve to open a highway of thy salvation for all mankind; through the same Jesus Christ, who now liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Light Infantry

O God, who requireth that thy servants be found faithful, grant to us of the Light Infantry, the spirit of unity and brotherly love so that we may ever be ready to give swift obedience to thy call, yielding to none in giving glory to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire

O Lord God: the shield and buckler of all that trust thee: grant to our Regiment the strength that fears no evil tidings, no desperate endeavours; and no foe bodily or spiritual: but advances in thy righteousness, through all rough places: under the Captain of our Salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Green Howards

Lord Jesus Christ, Shepherd of our souls, so lead, we pray thee, the Green Howards, that as we bear the symbol of thy Cross we may be always ready to take up our Cross and follow thee; till, having passed through the valley of the shadow of death we may rest in green pastures in thy care, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost one God, world without end. Amen.

The Royal Highland Fusiliers

Almighty God, who didst so bless the endeavours of our fathers that they have handed down to us an example of heroism and sacrifice, grant, we beseech thee, to the Royal Highland Fusiliers thy continued blessing. Abide with us wherever we may be called upon to serve; strengthen us to resist to the uttermost all the assaults of evil; and inspire us so to serve thee in our day and generation that we may worthily uphold the trust which has been committed to us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Cheshire Regiment

Almighty God, Lord and giver of life, nourish, we pray thee, the Cheshire Regiment with thine abundant grace; that, as we wear the Oak Leaf in token of loyalty, and forget not the valour of our fathers, so being rooted in the love of Christ and of our brethren, we may not fall away in time of temptation but stand fast in the Faith, and be strong like the Oak for his sake, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Welch Fusiliers

Eternal God, whose strength raised up our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, uphold, we pray thee, the ancient valour of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, that we may ever endure hardship after his example, and may rise with him to shine as the sun in thy Kingdom, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tragwyddol Dduw, a gyfododd trwy dy nerth yr Arglwydd Iesu Grist o'r meirw, cynnal fe weddiwn, gwrhydri hynafol y Fiwsilwyr Cymreig, fel yr oddefwn galedi yn ol ei esiampl, fel yr oddefwn galedi yn ol ei esiampl, ac y cyfodwn gydag ef i lewyrchu fel yr haul yn dy deyrnas, trwy'r un Iesu Grist ein Harglwydd. Amen.

The Royal Regiment of Wales

O God, our heavenly Father, who gave thy Son, Jesus Christ, to die upon the Cross for us, and calls men to be ready to lay down their lives for their friends, grant that we, thy servants of the Royal Regiment of Wales, choosing death rather than dishonour, may so follow the path of duty in this life that we may be found worthy of eternal life, through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

O Dduw, ein Tad Nefol, a roddaist Dy Fab Iesu Grist i farw troson ar y groes, ac a elwi ddynion i fod yn barod i roi eu bywydau dros eu cyfeillion, nertha ni, Dy weision o Gatrawd Frenhinol Cymru, i ddewis angau yn hytrach na chywilydd, fel y gallwn ddilyn llwybr dyletswydd yn y bywyd hwn a'n cael yn deilwng o fywyd tragwyddol trwy Iesu Grist, Fy Fab, ein Harglwydd

The King's Own Scottish Borderers

O Lord, without whom our labour is but lost and all our watching is in vain, grant that the King's Own Scottish Borderers may ever trust in thy – true religion, and endure hardness as good soldiers of him who bore the cross, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Royal Irish Regiment

Almighty God, whose love knows no bounds, grant that we, the Royal Irish Regiment, may do our duty courageously whether at home or abroad, so that undaunted by the difficulties which beset us, your will may be done And united as members one with another, may we, mindful of the valour and sacrifice of those who have gone before us, clear the way for those that follow; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment

Eternal Father, whose service is perfect freedom, grant that we, thy servants of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment, may ever stand back to back courageously against all evils that beset us, thus upholding the high traditions entrusted to us, through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment

Almighty God, by whose grace we are enabled to fight the good fight of Faith, uphold we pray thee in all their endeavours thy servants of the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, that wherever they serve, at home or abroad, by land, sea or in the air, trusting in thy everlasting strength, they may stand firm as trees of a forest in their faith and resolution, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Queen's Lancashire Regiment

O Lord Jesus Christ, in whose service is our perfect freedom, grant that we, thy servants of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment may so loyally serve our Sovereign and our native land, that being faithful unto death, we may share in the life to come, for thy truth's sake, who art one with the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

O Lord of Hosts, who three times commanded the leader of thine ancient people to be strong and of a good courage, and promised him good success, grant that we of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment may ever prosper in obedience to thy law, and thus do valiantly, so that we may tread down the enemies of our souls, in the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

The Staffordshire Regiment

Almighty God, who by thy Son Jesus Christ, hast delivered us from the bonds of our sin, we pray thee, so to bind us thy servants of the Staffordshire Regiment in charity one with another, that in all dangers and adversities we may ever keep the unity of the spirit, being knit together in the body of the same thy Son Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Black Watch

O God, whose strength setteth fast the mountains, Lord of the hills to whom we lift our eyes: grant us grace that we, once chosen to watch the mountains of an earthly kingdom, may stand fast in the faith and be strong, until we come to the heavenly kingdom of him who has bidden us watch and pray, thy Son, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

The Highlanders

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ commanded his disciples to watch and pray, grant that we, the Highlanders (Seaforth, Gordons and Camerons), mindful of the valiant deeds of those who have gone before us, may be ever watchful. And we pray that as one family, vowed to help our Sovereign against our nation's enemies, we may stand fast in loyalty and integrity, and so prove ourselves worthy of the trust committed to us, for his sake, the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders

O Lord of all good life grant now and at all times thy blessing upon the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in which we are called upon to serve under thy servant our Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth; enable us, while loving our own country best, to enter into the fellowship of the whole human family, and give us now and ever the gift of courage to seek after a just and merciful peace. Amen.

Airborne Forces

May the defence of the Most High be above and beneath around and within us, in our going out and in our coming in, in our rising up and in our going down, through all our days and all our nights, until the dawn when the Sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in his wings for the peoples of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Christian Personnel of the Brigade of Gurkhas

Almighty God, Father of all, whose ancient people looked to the hills, grant to us of the Brigade of Gurkhas, bound together in a bond of friendship, that we may serve our Sovereign with loyalty, integrity and cheerfulness; and mindful of our traditions, may we thy follow wherever you lead, and so at the last come to our eternal home, for the sake of him who called his disciples his friends, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Green Jackets

Almighty God, creator and preserver of all mankind, we beseech thee in thy wisdom to guide and guard us thy servants of the Royal Green Jackets. Make us worthy of the great traditions bound up in the union of our three Regiments, and as thy servants of old were chosen to obey with speed may we be bold to seek thy grace in every time of need, and so be patient and persevering in running the race that is set before us This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Special Air Service Regiment

O Lord who didst call on thy disciples to venture all to win all men to thee, grant that we, the chosen members of the Special Air Service Regiment, may by our works and ways dare all to win all, and in doing so render special service to thee and our fellow-men in all the world, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Army Air Corps

Almighty God, who makest the clouds thy chariots, and who walkest upon the wings of the wind, have mercy upon all who serve in the Army Air Corps that they may have the assurance of your presence with them, and find thy hand to support and strengthen them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Army Chaplain's Department

Blessed God, who has committed the glorious Gospel to our trust, have mercy upon the Royal Army Chaplains' Department and grant that we may never glory save in the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, but in all things may approve ourselves as thy ministers, through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Logistic Corps

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ministered to the needs of mankind, may we of the Royal Logistic Corps, so tackle the diverse tasks assigned to us; that wherever we serve, on land or sea, or in the air we may sustain our comrades both in peace and war, and thus be found worthy of those whom we seek to support, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Army Medical Corps

O God, whose blessed Son was made perfect though suffering, give thy grace, we beseech thee, to thy servants of the Royal Army Medical Corps, that by loyalty in hard service after the example of Saint Luke the beloved physician, we may be found faithful in ministering to those that need, for his sake who went about doing good, the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

O God of power and might, whose all-pervading energy is the strength of nature and man, inspire, we pray Thee, us Thy servants of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers with the quickening spirit of goodwill, that as honest craftsmen, seeking only the good of all in peace or war, we may glorify Thee both in the work of our hands and the example of our fellowship, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adjutant General's Corps (All Branches)

Father of all, grant to us who are bound together in the Adjutant General's Corps, the grace to understand that those whom we support depend on our integrity, expertise and resolution; and, following in the footsteps of your Son, may we be mindful of their needs and faithful in our responsibilities; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adjutant General's Corps (Staff and Personnel Support Branch)

Almighty God, Creator and Father of all, so direct our lives that we may serve with integrity and resolution in the Adjutant General's Corps; and grant that in our service we may ever be worthy of the trust of those whom we seek to support for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adjutant General's Corps Provost Branch (Royal Military Police)

Almighty God, by whose grace we are called to positions of responsibility and trust bless, we pray thee, all members of the Royal Military Police (and those who previously served in the Corps of Royal Military Police). Inspire them to courage and wisdom, courtesy and faithfulness: grant them a true knowledge of thy will that they may guide their comrades aright: that by saving others in justice and mercy they may also serve thee and so become more worthy of their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adjutant General's Corps Provost Branch (Military Provost Branch)

Almighty God, whose ways are justice and peace and whose judgements are righteous and merciful, grant to us thy servants of the Military Provost Staff (and those who previously served in the Military Provost Staff Corps*) the spirit of understanding and compassion, that by thy inspiration we may be faithful in the discharge of our duties, zealous in protection of the weak and faint-hearted and selfless in serving the best interest of those who have been committed to our charge. We ask this in the Name, and in the service, of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**to be included on appropriate occasions*

Adjutant General's Corps (Education and Training Services)

Almighty God, whose word giveth light in the darkness, grant to us thy servants of the Educational and Training Services Branch (and those who previously served in the Royal Army Educational Corps*) that with steadfast hands we may carry amongst soldiers the torch of learning and that with thine aid, both we and they may gain not only knowledge but wisdom, and may come to understand more clearly thy purpose for mankind. May we discern thy presence everywhere in nature and in the minds of men, so that our teaching may bear constant witness to him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adjutant General's Corps (Army Legal Services)

Almighty God, before whom we shall all be judged at the last day, grant to us of the Army Legal Services (and to those who previously served in the Army Legal Corps*) that we may prosecute justice with integrity and truth, and also defend the rights of those committed to our care; so that at the last we may obtain mercy under your judgement; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. **to be included on appropriate occasions*

Royal Veterinary Corps

O God, who didst create man in thine own image, and gavest him dominion over every living thing, give wisdom and grace, we pray thee, to thy servants of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, that we may guard these thy creatures committed to our care against disease and suffering and promote their health and usefulness; and may ever declare both by word and example that the merciful man is kind to his beast, for his sake, who has told us that not one sparrow is forgotten before thee, Jesus Christ our merciful Redeemer. Amen.

Small Arms School Corps

Almighty God, who alone canst strengthen us in the hour of danger, and inspire us to fight the good fight of Faith; give, we pray thee, to thy servants of the Small Arms School Corps, whose service it is to teach our comrades against the day of battle, faithfulness and zeal in this their duty. May they ever be mindful of that other warfare of the Spirit and prove themselves Warriors of thy Eternal Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Dental Corps

O God, who art the source of man's best gifts, grant to us who serve in the Royal Army Dental Corps wisdom and understanding, that our minds may seek further knowledge and our hands lose not their ability and skills; so that we may serve thee in promoting health of body and peace of mind for those in our care; we ask this in the name of him who is the health and peace of all thy servants, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Intelligence Corps

O God, who alone givest true wisdom: grant to thy servants of the Intelligence Corps such gifts of understanding and truth, that by their vigilance thy people may live their lives in freedom and in peace to thy glory and the welfare of this realm; for thy Holy name's sake. Amen.

Army Physical Training Corps

O God, whose will it is that mind, body and spirit should work in unity to thy glory, help us of the Army Physical Training Corps to serve thee in our work and ever to remember that the body must be the servant of the mind, and the mind the servant of the spirit, and that only as they obtain their strength from thee can their purpose be fulfilled and thy name be glorified: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Queen Alexandra's Royal Nursing Corps

O God, who through the healing touch of thy dear Son didst recover the sick and relieve their pain, grant to us who serve beneath thy Cross in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps such love towards thee and devotion to our duty that the shadows may pass from those entrusted to our care, their darkness lighten into faith and hope, and thy love bring healing peace, for his sake who was content to suffer for all mankind, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Army Medical Services (to be used on joint occasions)

Almighty and everlasting God, who sent your son, Jesus Christ, to be Saviour and Healer of men; we ask you to bless the work of the Army Medical Services. Grant that we who are called to share in this ministry of healing may ever have present in our minds the example of our Lord, and his tenderness and sympathy for all human suffering Give us grace and patience faithfully to fulfil our calling and crown our work with good success; for the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

The School of Infantry

Almighty God, who alone can strengthen us in the hour of danger, give to thy servants of the School of Infantry, whose service it is to teach their comrades against the day of battle, faithfulness and zeal in this their duty. May they ever be mindful of the greater warfare of the Spirit, so that, filled with thy power, they may prove true leaders in the battle for thy eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Staff College

Almighty God, bless, we pray thee, all those who work at the Staff College. Grant that they and their families may make the most of their opportunities; give them patience and understanding, energy and good humour; and help them always to remember that the wisdom of the Owl and the power of the Sword are nothing without thy grace and the strength of thy Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Royal Military College of Science

O God, the source of all knowledge and wisdom, bless we beseech thee the work of the Royal Military College of Science and grant to all who labour therein the enlightenment of thy Holy Spirit, that in their search for truth they may discover the hidden purposes of thy creation and so be led into the way of faith and service, to thy glory and the benefit of all mankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

Almighty God, whose Son, the Lord of all life, came not to be served but to serve; help us to be masters of ourselves that we may be the servants of others, and teach us to serve to lead; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Hospital Chelsea

O God, who by the overshadowing of an oak didst preserve our Royal Founder from the hands of his enemies and so lead him to an earthly throne, grant thy heavenly protection, we beseech thee, to thy servants in this Royal Hospital, that continuing in thy love, they may give thee true and loyal service, and so enduring to the end enter at the last into thine eternal kingdom in glory, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

The Army Cadet Force

Our God our Father, who hast brought us together as members of the Army Cadet Force; help us to do our duty at all times and to be loyal to each other. May all that is good and true prosper among us; strengthen us to defend the right, and bless our work that it may be acceptable to thee; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

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The Guild of St Helena

O Lord Jesus Christ, who by thy cross didst triumph over death, and by thy resurrection didst open unto us the Kingdom of Heaven; bless we beseech thee, the Guild of St Helena and us the members in our work, and grant that we may ever rejoice in the hope of eternal life; through thy grace, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, ever one God, world without end. Amen

The Collects of the Royal Air Force

The Royal Air Force Collect 1

Almighty God, who has promised that they who wait upon thee shall renew their strength and mount up with wings, as eagles, we commend to thy fatherly protection all who serve in the Royal Air Force. Uplift and support us in our endeavour, that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth and a sure defence to our homeland. Help us to fulfil our several duties with honour, goodwill and integrity, and grant that we may prove to be worthy successors of those who by their valour and sacrifice did nobly save their day and generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Air Force Collect 2

Almighty God, who makest the clouds thy chariots and walkest upon the wings of the storm, look in mercy we beseech thee upon the Royal Air Force. Make us a tower of strength to our Queen and to our country. Help us to do our duty with prudence and with fearlessness, confident that in life or in death the eternal God is our refuge and strength. Grant this for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

The Royal Air Force Collect 3

O Holy Spirit, Breath of God, who dost inspire and sustain man's destiny, quicken we beseech Thee, the hearts and minds of all who serve in the Royal Air Force; that those who fly may brave the perils of the air with courage; that those who labour on the ground may be infused with zeal and devotion; and that all who bear the burden and heat of the day may be refreshed with the live-giving power of thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Royal Air Force Regiment

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, whose son Jesus Christ showed us the path of duty, we beseech thee to bless all who serve in the Royal Air Force Regiment. Help us to do our duty with courage and dedication. Of thy goodness be our strength in times of danger, watch over our loved ones when we are separated, and make us a sure defence to those we serve. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings - for use only by Chaplains

General Blessings

1

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

2

The God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, establish, strengthen and settle you in the faith; and the blessing . . .

3

May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; and the blessing . . .

4

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, the Queen, the Commonwealth, and all humankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and the blessing . . .

5

May Christ, who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future, fill you with his new life; and the blessing . . .

6

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing . . .

7

May the God of all power and might make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing . . .

8

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

9

The love of the Lord Jesus draw *you* to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen *you* in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill *your* hearts; and the blessing . . .

Blessings - *for use only by Chaplains*

Seasonal Blessings

Advent

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing . . .

Christmas

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas; and the blessing . .

Epiphany

Christ the Son of God perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden your hearts with the good news of his kingdom; and the blessing . . .

Lent

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing and the blessing . . .

Passiontide

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the . . .

Eastertide

God, who through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us the victory, give you joy and peace in your faith; and the blessing . . .

Ascensiontide – Pentecost

The Spirit of truth lead you into all truth, give you grace to confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, and strengthen you to proclaim the word and works of God; and the blessing . . .

Trinity Sunday

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing . . .

Saints Days

God give you grace to follow his saints in faith and hope and love; and . . .

Funeral and Memorial Services

May God give *you* his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Principal Services

Divine Service

This order is based on Morning and Evening Prayer and on the Liturgy of The Word from the Holy Eucharist. It is a flexible ecumenical structure upon which to base simple prayers or a formal act of worship.

The Gathering

*A Hymn may be sung as the ministers enter.
The presiding minister says*

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

(or especially in the morning)

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

Give us the joy of your saving help
All **and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

(or especially in the evening)

O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Lead your people to freedom, O God.
All **And banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

A minister may say

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

A Minister says an invitation to confession

Gathered together as God's family,
let us ask forgiveness from our heavenly Father,
for he is full of gentleness and compassion.

All **Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing
and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Presiding Minister says this or some other absolution

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *you* from *your* sins,
and restore *you* in his image to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

These words may be used.

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
have mercy upon us.

All **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
have mercy upon us.**

Or Gloria in excelsis (page XXX)

or an opening Canticle (page XXX) may be used.

The Collect

The presiding minister says the Opening Prayer or Collect,

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

One or two readings follow.

After each reading these words may be used.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A Psalm, Canticle or Hymn may be sung.

The Gospel may be read formally, especially at a principal morning service. An acclamation may herald the Gospel reading.

All remain standing.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

A Hymn or Gospel Canticle (page XXX) may be sung

The Apostles' Creed

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The presiding minister may begin the intercession

In the power of the Spirit,
and in union with Christ
let us pray to the Father.

*The ministers and others may introduce biddings.
Any of these responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray to the Lord.
All **Lord have mercy.**

The intercession may end

Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Or else the presiding minister may use this
or another concluding prayer. (See page XXX)*

Heavenly Father,
you have promised through your Son Jesus Christ,
that when we meet in his name,
and pray according to his mind,
he will be among us and hear our prayer:
in your love and mercy fulfil our desires,
and give us your greatest gift,
which is to know you, the only true God,
and your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
All **Amen.**

The Conclusion

A hymn may be sung.

A collection may be taken.

*The Communion may begin here,
and the rest of this order omitted. See page XXX*

The Lord's Prayer is introduced.

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us.

All **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.**

This reponsory may be used.

Make your ways known upon the earth, O Lord:
All **your saving power among all peoples.**
Renew your Church in holiness:
All **and help us serve you with joy.**
Guide the leaders of this and every nation:
All **that justice may prevail throughout the world.**
Let not the needy be forgotten:
All **nor the hope of the poor taken away.**
Make us instruments of your peace:
All **and let your glory be over all the earth.**

A Regimental, Corps or Service Collect or another specific formal prayer may be used, and the following prayer may be said by all.

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light to our paths,
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The service ends with one of the following.

All **The Lord be with you
and also with you.
Let us bless the Lord.**

All **Thanks be to God.**

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

(or)

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**

*Or a Chaplain may say a blessing, to which all respond.
Amen.*

*A hymn may be sung.
The ministers depart.*

The Holy Eucharist

Anglican Rite - Common Worship – Order One

This order is to be used only by Anglican Chaplains

The Gathering

At the entrance of the ministers a Hymn may be sung.

The president may say

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

The president greets the people

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

*From Easter Day to Pentecost
this acclamation follows*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

All **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Words of welcome or introduction may be said.

Prayers of Penitence

*A minister uses a seasonal invitation to confession
or these or other suitable words*

My brothers and sisters,
as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ
in word and sacrament,
let us call to mind and confess our sins.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

*Or a Kyrie Confession may be used
with these or similar verses.*

[God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:]
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

[Make your ways known on the earth,
Your saving power among all nations:]
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

[You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations.]
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy**

*The president says either of these
or some other absolution.*

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life

All **Amen.**

(or)

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon *you*,
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,
and keep *you* in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

*If a Kyrie confession has not been used,
this form may be said or sung.*

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Tris-hagion

Or the Tris-hagion may be used.

Holy God

Holy and mighty,

Holy and immortal:

Have mercy upon us.

All **Holy God**

Holy and mighty,

Holy and immortal:

Have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

*Except in Advent and Lent,
Gloria in excelsis may be used*

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Collect

*The president introduces a period of silent prayer
with the words 'Let us pray'
or a more specific bidding.
The Collect is said, and all respond.*

All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Readings

One or two readings follow.

*Psalms, Canticles and Hymns may be sung
between the readings.*

At the end the reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

An acclamation of this form may herald the gospel

Alleluia Alleluia

[Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.
You have the words of eternal life.]

All **Alleluia.**

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

This creed may be said.

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Or the Apostles' Creed may be said (inside front cover.)

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are introduced by the president using these or similar words.

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

A minister or reader continues, and these responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
All **hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear us.
All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray to the Lord
All **Lord, have mercy.**

Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Or the intercession may end with a collect. (See page XXX)

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

The Peace is introduced in these or other words.

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Preparation of the Table

Taking of the Bread and Wine

*The gifts of the people may be gathered and presented.
The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.
The president takes the bread and wine,
and may say any of these or other suitable table prayers.*

1 Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

2 Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

3 Wise and gracious God,
you spread a table before us;
nourish your people with the word of life
and the bread of heaven.

All **Amen.**

4 Be present, be present,
Lord Jesus Christ,
our risen high priest;
make yourself known in the breaking of bread.

All **Amen.**

The President begins the Eucharistic Prayer

Eucharist Prayer B *or Eucharistic Prayer E on page XXX*

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Here follows an extended preface, or the following.

Father, we give you thanks and praise
through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all things;
who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;
as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin,
he lived on earth and went about among us;
he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;
he put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;
so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

A short proper preface may be inserted

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
or ever praising you and *saying*:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith. *or* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
All **Christ has died:** **Dying you destroyed our death**
Christ is risen: **rising you restored our life:**
Christ will come again. **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of [*N and*] all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The service continues with the Lord's Prayer on page XXX

Eucharistic Prayer E

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Here follows an extended preface, or the following.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.

You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.

His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And so we gladly thank you,

with saints and angels praising you, and *saying*:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured

may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died
he had supper with his friends

and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many

for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,

in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life
and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith. *or* Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
All **Christ has died:** **Dying you destroyed our death**
Christ is risen: **rising you restored our life:**
Christ will come again. **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [*N and*] all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **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.

Breaking of the Bread

The president breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

(or)

Every time we eat this bread
and drink this cup,

All **we proclaim the Lord's death
until he comes.**

Agnus Dei

All **Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

The president says one of these invitations to communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

(or)

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy,
Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

or, from Easter Day to Pentecost

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The president and people receive communion.

*Baptized persons who are communicant members of other Churches
that subscribe to the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, and are in good
standing in their own Church may receive Communion.*

*Any person may come to the altar for a blessing.
Holding a book is a useful signal to the ministers
Any consecrated bread and wine not required for purposes of
communion is consumed at the end of the distribution or after the
service*

Prayer after Communion

This or some other post Communion Collect may be said.

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

All **Amen**

This prayer may be said by all.

All **Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

The Dismissal

A Hymn may be sung here or after the dismissal.

Blessing

The President says the blessing, and all respond. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

or, from Easter Day to Pentecost

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Communion Order One - from Reserved Sacrament

Communion by Extension: when no Priest is available, an authorized lay minister brings previously consecrated elements to the chapel or place of assembly, and after the Liturgy of the Word (pageXXX) uses this order.

The Peace

The minister says

In fellowship with the whole Church of God, with all who have been brought together by the Holy Spirit to worship on this day, and who have celebrated the Eucharist, let us rejoice that we are called to be part of the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

The minister then says

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

Standing away from the table, the minister reads from St Luke's Gospel.

"They recognized him in the breaking of bread"

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?' That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!' *Luke 24.30-34*

All respond.

**Blessed are you, God of those who hunger and thirst,
for you give us our food in due season.**

You nourish us with your word, which is the bread of life.

You strengthen us with your Spirit, the new wine of your Kingdom.

In Christ you are food for the hungry, refreshment for the weary.

Blessed are you, our Creator and Redeemer.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . .**

(full text inside front cover)

Giving of Communion

The minister moves to the Holy Table and says

The Church of God, of which we are members, has taken bread and wine and given thanks over them according to our Lord's command. These holy gifts have been *brought to / kept for* us that we too may share in the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Silence is kept and the minister says

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

or, from Easter Day to Pentecost

Alleluia. Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

All **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The minister and people receive communion.

Prayer after Communion

Silence is kept, and the minister may say a post communion collect.

All may say

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

This or some other ending may be used.

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**

The minister says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

or, from Easter Day to Pentecost

Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

All **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Communion Order Two – 1662 Structure

After a Service of the Word the president places bread and wine upon the table, and says.

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God. *A Proper Preface may be used.* Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you, and *saying*:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

[We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**]

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again. Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. **Amen.**

The Giving of Communion

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your heart by faith with thanksgiving.

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for you, preserve your body and soul to everlasting life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be thankful.

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer is used, if it has not been said previously.

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

(Full text inside front cover)

The Prayer after Communion

Lord and heavenly Father, we offer you through your dear Son Jesus Christ this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and our bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice; fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe. Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(or)

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The president may use a seasonal or another suitable blessing.

Communion Order Three - Spiritual Communion

When it is not possible to receive the Holy Communion read Daily Prayer or some other Service of the Word, and end with these words:

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ: I proclaim your resurrection; I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, I pray you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life eternal. Amen.

The General Thanksgiving may be said (page XXX) and/or Anima Christi. Conclude your devotions with these words:

I thank you, Father, for the holy meal in which Christ is received, the memory of his passion is renewed, my life is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to me and all the faithful.
To him with you and the Holy Spirit be glory for ever. Amen.

*Adapted from "A Prayer Book For The Armed Services"
The Episcopal Church of the United States of America.*

The Anima Christi *(These words may also be said before or after Mass)*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
Body of Christ, save me.
Blood of Christ, refresh me.
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
O good Jesus, hear me.
Within Thy wounds hide me.
Never permit me to be separated from Thee.
From the wicked enemy, defend me.
At the hour of my death,
call me and bid me come to Thee.
that with Thy Saints I may praise Thee
forever and ever. Amen

Holy Communion – Scottish Reformed Rite

From the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland
Third (Shorter) Order for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

*The minister may conduct the Service of the Word informally before
Breaking Bread using the general forms beginning on page XXX,
or he may use this order.*

Call to Worship

The minister greets the people in these or other words:

Let us worship God.

A hymn may be sung.

Scripture Sentence

The minister may say one or more of the following:

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst to see right prevail;
they shall be satisfied. *St Matthew 5: 6*

I shall lift up the cup of salvation and call on the Lord by name.
Psalm 116: 13

Taste and see that the Lord is good.
Happy are they who find refuge in him! *Psalm 34: 8*

Prayers of Approach and Penitence

Let us pray.

*The minister may say these prayers alone,
or together with the people.*

All **Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The minister may invite the people to call to mind their sins.

All **Lord God, Holy and Immortal,
we confess that we have broken your commandments;
we have sinned by selfishness, unbelief, and pride;
we have not acted justly, loved mercy
nor walked humbly with you.
In the fullness of your mercy, blot out our misdeeds;
in your loving-kindness, give us a willing spirit
and the chastened heart you do not despise;
and help us to forgive others as you forgive us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Or this shorter form from the First order of Communion may be said.

All **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned,
In thought, word and deed,
through our own fault,
and in common with others.
We are truly sorry
and humbly turn from our sins.**

The minister says

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect

One of these or some other collect may be said. (See page XXX)

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass human understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we, loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Glorious God, you have assured us of your continuing love, and by your mercy you bring us to the table of your Son our Lord. Help us to feed on him by faith, that nourished by this sacrament we may live to your honour and glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry with the bread of life and the word of his Kingdom. Renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by the true and living bread, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Service of the Word

Readings

Short passages may be read from the Old and New Testaments.

A Hymn may be sung.

A short passage from the Gospels shall be read.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed *may be said (inside back cover)*

(or)

The Apostle's Creed *may be said (inside front cover)*

Prayers

Prayers of Intercession may be said, and these words may be used:

Lord, in your mercy *(See page XXX)*

All **Hear our prayer.**

(or)

Lord hear us

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The Supper of the Lord

Offering

During the singing of the hymn, the offerings of money, along with the gifts of bread and wine, are brought to the Communion Table.

The Grace

The minister says:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen.**

Narrative of the Institution

The minister may say:

These words may be omitted

Hear the words of the institution of the Lord's Supper, according to St Paul:

The tradition which I handed on to you came to me from the Lord himself: that on the night of his arrest the Lord Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God broke it, and said: 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in memory of me.' In the same way, he took the cup after supper, and said: 'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.' For every time you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11: 23 – 26

Taking of the Bread and Wine

The minister says:

As the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, I take these elements of bread and wine, to be set apart from all common uses to this holy use and mystery; and as he gave thanks and blessed, let us draw near to God and offer him our prayers and thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving

The minister says:

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places, to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, for the majesty of your glory, the wonder of your works, the riches of your grace.

Here may be added the Proper Preface

Therefore, with your people of all places and times, and with the whole company of heaven, we proclaim your greatness and sing your praise in the angels' song:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We bless you for his holy birth, his perfect life on earth, his suffering for us and his triumph over death; for his ascension to your right hand and his gift of the Holy Spirit; and for the promise of his coming again.

Remembering his work and passion, and pleading his eternal sacrifice, we follow his example and obey his command:

who, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, *He takes the bread*
and when he had given thanks he broke it, *He breaks the bread*
and said, 'This is my body which is (broken) for you;
do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way he took the cup *The minister raises the cup*
saying, 'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood.

Whenever you drink it, do it in memory of me.' **See note*

Send down your Holy Spirit to bless us and these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread which we break may be for us the communion of the body of Christ, and the cup of blessing which we bless the communion of the blood of Christ; that we, receiving them, by faith may be made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to nourish us and help us grow in grace, to the glory of your most holy name.

And here we offer and present to you our very selves, to be a living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for your acceptance; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours,
almighty Father, now and forever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
(Full text inside front cover)

** Note A in Common Order (2nd Edition) page 143 directs that the Narrative of Institution may be incorporated within the Thanksgiving. This form is suitable for ecumenical congregations.*

Breaking of Bread

If the minister has not used these words in The Thanksgiving he says:

According to the holy institution, example, and command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and as a memorial of him, we do this:

who, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, *He takes the bread*
and when he had given thanks he broke it, *He breaks the bread*
and said, 'This is my body which is (broken) for you;
do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way he took the cup *The minister raises the cup*
saying, 'This cup is the new covenant sealed by my blood.

Whenever you drink it, do it in memory of me.' **See note*

*These or other suitable word may be may be used
at the Breaking of the Bread.*

Jesus Lamb of God,
All **have mercy on us.**
Jesus bearer of our sins,
All **have mercy on us.**
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
All **grant us peace**

Communion

The minister partakes of the bread and wine.

In giving the bread and cup, he says these or other authorized words.

Take, eat. This is the body of Christ which is (broken) for you.
Do this, remembering him.

This cup is the new covenant sealed by Christ's blood which was shed that
the sins of many might be forgiven. Drink from it, all of you.

(or) Eat this, the bread of heaven.

Drink this, the cup of salvation.

*The Communion is distributed according to local custom, or, if none, as
the minister directs. After communion the vessels are returned to the Holy
Table and covered.*

The Peace

The minister says:

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

The minister may say this or some other suitable prayer:

Let us pray:

Gracious God we give you glory, thanks, and praise for the dying and undying love of our Saviour Jesus Christ. In your great goodness you have brought us into communion with him and with all who love him, and made us heirs of your everlasting kingdom. By your grace, may we continue in this holy fellowship, and live to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A hymn may be sung

Dismissal and Blessing

The minister says

Go in peace.

The minister adds this or some other blessing (see page XXX):

The peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you. **Amen.**

An Intercession

The third Communion Order prints these Remembrances before the Lord's Prayer; or they may be used after the creed, with or without responses.

(In peace let us pray to the lord)

Remember, O Lord, your holy Church throughout the world and reveal your glory among the nations. . . . Save your people and bless those who belong to you, shepherd them and carry them for ever.

Remember, O Lord, our families and friends, and surround them with your steadfast love. . . .

Remember, O Lord, those who are sick, those who suffer pain or loneliness or grief, those who draw near to death, and those whom we name in our hearts before you . . . Comfort them with your presence, sustain them by your promises, grant them your peace.

And now, rejoicing in the communion of the saints, we remember with thanksgiving all your faithful servants and those dear to us who serve you in the glory of heaven. . . . Keep us in unbroken fellowship with your whole Church in heaven and on earth, and bring us at the last to the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy Communion – An English Reformed Rite

United Board Churches

The Preparation

Call to Worship (Psalm)

Hymn

Prayers of Praise, Confession and Assurance

The Lords Prayer

All **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.**

The Word

Old Testament Reading

New Testament Reading

Address

The Holy Communion

Words of Invitation

Prayer of Preparation

All **Gracious Heavenly Father,
having called us to Your Holy Table,
grant us the assurance of your pardoning love
and give us grace from the heart freely to forgive others.
Accept us as we dedicate ourselves to you,
and grant that feeding on Christ by faith,
we may be strengthened by your Holy Spirit
and enabled to live in fellowship with you,
now and always. Amen**

Words of Hope

Words of Institution

Now in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, to begin with, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you; and to some extent I believe it. Indeed, there have to be factions among you, for only so will it become clear who among you are genuine. When you come together, it is not really to eat the Lord's supper. For when the time comes to eat, each of you goes ahead with your own supper, and one goes hungry and another becomes drunk. What! Do you not have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What should I say to you? Should I commend you? In this matter I do not commend you!

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves.

1 Corinthians 11:17-29

Prayers of Thanksgiving

All **Not as we would, but as we are able,
we praise and thank you Father
for the reality of Christ's birth,
the glory of His humanity,
a man born of woman,
tempted as we are yet without sin.
For His obedience to your will,
the generosity of His life:
for His sacrifice on the cross,
the wonder of His resurrection,
and the assurance that He lives for ever to save us,
for the gift of the Holy Spirit,
for calling us to be His people;
for the hope all can find in Him.
Accept our thanksgiving,
Lord God through your son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread and the Lifting of the Cup

The minister says

Great is the Mystery of faith

All **Christ has died
Christ is risen
Christ will come again**

Distribution of the Bread and Wine

Hymn

The Blessing

Holy Communion – Methodist Rite

Ordinary Seasons (First Service)

The Gathering of the People of God

The presiding minister reads a sentence of scripture.

A Hymn May be sung

Let us pray.

All **Almighty God,**
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The presiding minister says:

Let us confess our sins to God.

All **Most merciful God,**
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought and word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

Silence

All In your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Or, from Ordinary Seasons (3)

May the almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,
and keep us in life eternal. **Amen.**

Collect

One of these, or some other suitable collect is said. (page XXX)

Gracious God, whose love for the world is revealed in your Son our Saviour: grant that he may live in our hearts by faith, and be proclaimed in our lives by love; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be glory and praise, now and for ever. **Amen.** *Ordinary Seasons(1)*

God, the source of all wisdom, you teach us in your word that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with all our heart, and our neighbour as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** *Ordinary Seasons (3)*

Eternal God, giver of love and peace, you call your children to live together as one family. Give us grace to learn your ways, and to do your will, that we may bring justice and peace to all people. **Amen.** *Ordinary Time (15)*

Holy God, you liberate the oppressed and make a way for salvation. Unite us with all who cry for justice, and lead us together into freedom; through our Lord and Liberator, Jesus Christ. **Amen** *Ordinary Time (21)*

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

One or two readings are used.

A hymn may be sung.

Gospel Reading

A reading from the Gospel according to . . .

Hear the Gospel of Christ.

All **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

At the end the reader says.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

All **Praise to Christ our Lord.**

Sermon

A hymn may be sung.

Prayers of Intercession

These words may be used.

Lord in your mercy

All **Hear our prayer**

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The Lord's Prayer

We say together the prayer that Jesus gave us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

(Full text inside front cover.)

The Peace

All stand.

We are the Body of Christ.

All **In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.
Let us therefore keep the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another in the name of Christ.

All stand.

The Nicene Creed may be said – inside back cover

Or the Apostles' Creed may be said – inside front cover.

The Lord's Supper

The Preparation of the Gifts

*A hymn may be sung. The offerings of the people are presented.
Bread and wine are brought to the table (or if already on the table
are uncovered). The presiding minister takes the bread and wine and
prepares them for use.*

Lord and Giver of every good thing,
we bring to you
bread and wine for our communion,
lives and gifts for your kingdom,
all for transformation through your grace and love,

All stand.

The Thanksgiving

The presiding minister leads the great prayer of thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We praise you, gracious Father,
our Maker and Sustainer.

You created the heavens and the earth
and formed us in your own image.

Though we sinned against you,
your love for us was constant,
and you sent your Son Jesus Christ
to be the Saviour of the world.

Sharing our human nature,
he was born of Mary
and baptized in the Jordan.

He proclaimed your kingdom, by word and deed,
and was put to death upon the cross.

You raised him from the dead;
you exalted him in glory;
and through him you have sent your Holy Spirit,
calling us to be your people,
a community of faith.

And so, with angels and archangels
and all the choirs of heaven,
we join in the triumphant hymn:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, we praise you
that on the night in which he was betrayed
our Saviour Christ took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup of wine,
gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying,
'Drink from it, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for all people
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.'
Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
and proclaiming his eternal sacrifice,
we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving,
as we declare the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Send down your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine
may be for us the body and blood of Christ.
Unite us with him for ever
and bring us with the whole creation
to your eternal kingdom.

All **Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.
Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The presiding minister breaks the bread in the sight of the people in silence, or saying:

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Silence, all seated or kneeling

Jesus, Lamb of God,
All **have mercy on us.**
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
All **have mercy on us.**
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
All **grant us peace.**

The Sharing of the Bread and Wine

The presiding minister, those assisting with the distribution, and the people receive, according to local custom.

The presiding minister may say these or other words of invitation:

Jesus said: 'I am the bread of life.
Those who come to me shall not hunger
and those who believe in me shall never thirst.'

Draw near with faith.

Words such as the following are said during the distribution:

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*During the distribution there may be appropriate music.
The elements that remain are covered with a white cloth.*

Prayers and Dismissal

Silence

Let us pray.

All **We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all people. Amen.**

Or, from Ordinary Seasons (2)

**God of glory,
We have seen with our eyes
And touched with our hands
the bread of heaven.
Strengthen us in our new life together
that we may grow in love
for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

This or some other hymn may be sung.

All **Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell; Alleluia!
Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head; Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise; Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies; Alleluia!**

The presiding minister says this or some other blessing:

The blessing of God,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
remain with *you/us* always.

All **Amen.**

The presiding minister says:

Go in peace in the power of the Spirit
to live and work to God's praise and glory.

All **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Roman Catholic Services

This section is to be used only by Roman Catholic Chaplains

Holy Mass

Introductory Rites

At the entrance of the ministers, a hymn may be sung.

The celebrant greets the people

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

All **and also with you.**

Penitential Rites

The Celebrant invites the people to call to mind and repent of their sins. After a period of silent reflection this or another form of confession is used

All **I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned through my own fault,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;
and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life

All **Amen**

The Kyrie eleison may be said, if not used in penitential rite.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The Gloria in excelsis may be used

All **Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The celebrant says The Opening Prayer, and all respond
All **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

One or two readings follow.

After each reading these words may be used.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*A Responsorial Psalm may be said, the people repeating the
response after the reader and after each verse*

An Alleluia heralds the Gospel

Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to N.

All **Glory to you, Lord.**

The Gospel is proclaimed, after which is said.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

The Nicene Creed *may be said (inside back cover)*

(or)

The Apostles' Creed *may be said (inside front cover)*

Prayer of the Faithful

The Celebrant invites the people to pray.

Biddings may be followed by this response:

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

(or)

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

The celebrant says the concluding prayer.

The people respond: Amen.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

If no song is sung the people respond to the offertory prayers.

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become our spiritual drink.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The celebrant says

Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

All **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands
for the praise and glory of his name,
for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

The celebrant says the Prayer over the Gifts, to which all respond:

All **Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The celebrant shall say this is or some other Preface.

Father, all powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks through Jesus Christ our Lord. Through his cross and resurrection he freed us from sin and death and called us to the glory that has made us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people set apart. Everywhere we proclaim your mighty works for you have called us out of darkness into your own wonderful light. And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven we proclaim your glory and join in their unending hymn of praise:

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna in the highest.**

Father, you are holy indeed, and all creation rightly gives you praise. All life, all holiness comes from you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by the working of the Holy Spirit. From age to age you gather a people to yourself, so that from east to west a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name. And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate this Eucharist.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread and gave you thanks and praise.

He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my Body which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks and praise, gave the cup to his disciples, and said: Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my Blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all men so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

Memorial Acclamation of the People

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All **Christ has died:** *or* **Dying you destroyed our death**
Christ is risen: **rising you restored our life:**
Christ will come again. **Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Father, calling to mind the death your Son endured for our salvation, his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven, and ready to greet him when he comes again, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice. Look with favour on your Church's offering, and see the Victim whose death has reconciled us to yourself. Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ. May he make us an everlasting gift to you and enable us to share in the inheritance of your saints, with Mary, the virgin Mother of God, with the apostles, the martyrs, [*Saint N*] and all your saints, on whose constant intercession we rely for help. Lord, may this sacrifice, which has made our peace with you, advance the peace and salvation of all the world. Strengthen in faith and love your pilgrim Church on earth, your servant, Pope *N*, our bishop *N*, and all the bishops, with the clergy and the entire people your Son has gained for you. Father, hear the prayers of the family you have gathered here before you. In mercy and love unite all your children wherever they may be.

Either

Welcome into your kingdom our departed brothers and sisters, and all who have left this world in your friendship. We hope to enjoy for ever the vision of your glory, through Christ our Lord, from whom all good things come.

Or, at Requiems

Remember *N*. In baptism *he/she* died with Christ: may *he/she* also share his resurrection, when Christ will raise our mortal bodies and make them like his own in glory. Welcome into your kingdom our departed brothers and sisters, and all who have left this world in your

friendship. There we hope to share in your glory when every tear will be wiped away. On that day we shall see you, our God, as we are. We shall become like you and praise you for ever through Christ our Lord, from whom all good things come.

Final Doxology

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, almighty Father for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Communion Rite

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our saviour gave us.

All **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.**

Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen**

The Sign of Peace

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles: I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All **And also with you.**

Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

The Breaking of the Bread

All **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

All **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

The celebrant and people receive Holy Communion.

Prayer after Communion

The Post Communion prayer is said, all respond

All **Amen.**

Concluding Rite

The Celebrant blesses the people

The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son,
and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

These or other words of dismissal are used.

Go in the peace of Christ

The response is always the same

All **Thanks be to God.**

Roman Catholic Rite of Penance

Priest In the name of the Father and of the Son, and Holy Spirit.

Penitent **Amen.**

The Priest addresses the penitent with these or similar words:

Priest God, who has enlightened every heart,
help you to know your sins

Penitent **Amen.**

The priest may read a short Scripture passage, then the penitent makes his or her confession. The priest counsels the penitent and gives a penance, usually some prayers or charitable work. The penitent accepts the penance and shows sorrow for sin by saying an Act of Contrition:

O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I
have sinned against you,
and with the help of your grace, I will not sin again.

Remember Lord, your compassion and mercy
you showed long ago
Do not recall the sins and failings of my youth;
in your mercy remember me
because of your goodness. *Psalm 24:6-7*

Lord Jesus, Son of God; have mercy on me a sinner.

The priest extends his hands over the penitent, and says:

Priest God, the Father of mercies,
through the death and resurrection of his Son,
has reconciled the world to himself
and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins;
through the ministry of the Church
may God give you pardon and peace,
and I absolve you from your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
+ and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent **Amen.**

Priest Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Penitent **His mercy endures for ever.**

The priest dismisses the penitent.

Priest The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.

Penitent **Thanks be to God.**

Field Burial for Roman Catholics

Whenever possible the minister should be a priest.

Our *brother/sister N.* has gone to *his/her* rest in the peace of Christ. May the Lord now welcome *him/her* to the table of God's children in heaven. With faith and hope in eternal life, let us assist *him/her* with our prayers. Let us pray to the Lord also for ourselves. May we who mourn be reunited one day with *N.*; together may we meet Christ Jesus when he who is our life appears in glory.

An expanded service of the word may here be used, or else these words.

We read in sacred Scripture:

This is the will of my Father, says the Lord,
that I should lose nothing of all that he has given to me,
and that I should raise it up on the last day. *John 6:39*

If a grave is to be blessed a priest shall say:

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, bless this grave, and send your holy angel to watch over it. As we bury here the body of our *brother/sister*, deliver *his/her* soul from every bond of sin, that *he/she* may rejoice in you with your saints for ever. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

At the grave the minister says these words of commendation and committal:

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our *brother/sister N.*, and we commit *his/her* body to the *ground*: [earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust].

The Lord bless *him/her* and keep *him/her*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *him/her* and be gracious to *him/her*, the Lord lift up the face of his countenance upon *him/her* and give *him/her* peace.

For burial at sea see page XXX

Now let us pray as Christ our Lord has taught us:

Our Father . . . (*Full text inside front cover.*)

May the love of God and the peace of the Lord Jesus Christ bless and console us and gently wipe every tear from our eyes: in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The minister then concludes:

Minister Go in the peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Pastoral Services

Prayer for Healing and Strength

*When pursued in defence of the poor and helpless, and for the promotion of peace and justice, the profession of arms is noble; but those who bear arms expose both their bodies and souls to extra-ordinary risks. Those in battle may see and do such awful deeds that afterwards they may not be able to quieten their consciences. Those preparing for battle would not be fit for armed service in our society if they were not apprehensive of what might be required of them. Although this “**Strengthening Service**” may be used anytime, it is primarily for use before or after engaging hostile forces: it is a prayer “that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul.” After the Word of God has been heard, and prayers said for his protection and peace, the ancient ceremonies of the laying on of hands and of the anointing with Holy Oils are offered. The laying on of hands may be done in the absence of a chaplain, and is a way of sharing hurt and understandable anxiety with each other and the Lord. The anointing with Holy Oil requires a chaplain or other authorized lay-minister. In both ceremonies, which are optional for all, we ask the Lord of all peace to fill us with his blessing; to protect us from all evil; and to forgive us for what we have done, or may have to do, or have failed to prevent.*

After these ceremonies should any person have a conscience that remains troubled a chaplain should be approached in confidence. The order of Reconciliation (Confession) may then be used. *BE*

The Gathering

Bless the Lord, O my soul;

All **and forget not all his benefits.**

God forgives all our iniquities;

All **and heals all our weaknesses.**

God redeems our life from the Pit;

All **and crowns us with love and mercy.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful, creator of heaven and earth. Your word brought light out of darkness. In Jesus Christ you proclaim good news to the poor, liberty to captives, sight to the blind and freedom for the oppressed. Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth, bringing life and health, justice and mercy, wholeness and peace. In the renewal of our lives you make known your heavenly glory. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Collect

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Liturgy of the Word

One or more readings follow as time and circumstances permit.

Psalm 91 may be said, or a hymn may be sung

Psalm 91

All Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold,
my God, in whom I put my trust.'

All Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night,
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand,
yet it shall not come near you.
Your eyes have only to behold
to see the reward of the wicked.

All Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge
and the Most High your stronghold,
There shall no evil happen to you,
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
For he shall give his angels charge over you,
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you in their hands,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

All Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy.

This psalm-prayer may be said

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy and, as you have bound us to yourself in love, leave us not who call upon your name, and grant us your salvation, made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Suitable Readings

The whole Armour of God

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. *Ephesians 6.10-18*

By Christ's wounds you have been healed

For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. *1 Peter 2.19-end.*

If the Communion is celebrated as part of this service, one of these or some other Gospel reading shall be used: (See page XXX and following)

Serving Christ in others

Matthew 25.34-40

The Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5.1-12

Love your enemies and pray for them

Matthew 5. 43-48

The Roman Soldier

Matthew 8.5-10

Do not worry about your life

Luke 12.4-7, 22-31.

No one has greater love than this.

John 15.9-14.

Sermon

The Prayers

Holy God, the protector of all who trust in you:

Grant to [*. . . and*] all who seek you, the assurance of your presence, your power, and your peace. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Grant your healing grace to [*N and*] all who are sick or wounded, that they may be made whole in body, mind and spirit. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Be with all medics and chaplains, and all who support the suffering: give them wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

[Receive [*our comrade(s) N and N and*] all those who have fallen; show mercy to their loved ones at home. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.]**

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and renew them with courage from on high. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Comfort our loved ones, anxious at home, surround them with your love, and protect them from all harm Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Give wisdom to our leaders and commanders, that we may be a force for good in *the land / these waters*.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Be with all who defend your truth and your peace: that we may vanquish injustice and wrong. Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Bring healing and wholeness to people and nations: let your justice rule our hearts, and your mercy our actions.

Lord, hear us.

All **Lord, graciously hear us.**

BE

Lord our God, our sure stronghold, hear the voice of our pleading and deliver us from every evil. Strengthen us as we strive for the poor and oppressed, and establish your justice in all the earth.

Amen.

Psalm 140

See Prayers for Protection and Peace (page XXX) for alternatives.

The Ministry of Healing

The Ministry of Healing may take place here using these or other suitable prayers. These ceremonies may be omitted, and the service concluded as printed. The Holy Communion may be offered.

Be with us, Spirit of God;

All nothing can separate us from your love.

Breathe on us, breath of God;

All fill us with your saving power.

Speak in us, wisdom of God;

All bring strength, healing and peace.

Silence is kept.

If anointing is to be administered, a chaplain may use this prayer over the olive oil, if it has not previously been blessed.

Lord, holy Father, giver of health and salvation, as your apostles anointed those who were sick and healed them, so continue the ministry of healing in your Church. Sanctify this oil, that those who are anointed with it may be freed from suffering and distress, find inward peace, and know the joy of your salvation, through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The laying on of hands may be administered with these words

In the name of God and trusting in his might alone, receive Christ's healing touch to make you whole. May Christ bring you wholeness of body, mind and spirit, deliver you from every evil, and give you his peace. **Amen.**

If anointing is administered, a chaplain or other authorized minister may use these words.

N, I anoint you in the name of God who gives you life.

Receive Christ's forgiveness, his healing and his love.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ grant you the riches of his grace, his wholeness and his peace. **Amen.**

This prayer concludes the Ministry of Healing

Lord God, our protector and guide, who made us knowing both good and evil: receive our prayer and, by your wisdom, help us to discern and desire all that is good, that the offering of our lives may be a service acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ, who suffered the darkness of torment and trial and now is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 141

The Conclusion

A hymn may be sung, and this part of Psalm 27 may be said

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? .

All **The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?**

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,
came upon me to eat up my flesh, .
they stumbled and fell.

All **Though a host encamp against me,
my heart shall not be afraid,**
and though there rise up war against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.

All **For in the day of trouble
he shall hide me in his shelter;**
in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me
and set me high upon a rock.

Final Collect

O God our deliverer, defender of the poor and needy,
when the foundations of the earth are shaking,
give strength to your people to uphold justice and fight all wrong
in the name of you Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** *Psalm 82*

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,**
(Full text inside front cover)

Peace to you from God our Father who hears our cry.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ whose death brings healing.
Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life and strength.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All **and also with you.**

A Chaplain may add this Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that
which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the
fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour everyone;
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and
the and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Reconciliation of a Penitent

The Rite of Confession

The Ministry of Defence recognizes the absolute confidentiality of pastoral conversations that take place between members of the Armed Forces and Chaplains. The Sacrament of Confession is therefore protected in both Church and Military Law.

The minister of this Rite of Confession shall normally be a chaplain, but in case of need one Christian may confess to another. A lay person does not pronounce the formal absolution, but uses the alternate form.

The Greeting

The minister begins The Lord be with you

The penitent answers **and also with you.**

The Lord's Prayer may be said.

The Lord's Prayer

Minister Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

Together **Our Father, who art in heaven ...** (*Text inside front over*)

The Word of God

These or other suitable words from scripture may be read

Hear the words of comfort our Saviour Christ says to all who truly turn to him: 'Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' *Matthew 11.28*

Reconciliation

The minister invites the penitent to trust in God

The Lord be in your heart and on your lips, that you may truly and humbly confess your sins; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The penitent confesses his/her sins using these or other suitable words

I confess to almighty God, before the whole company of heaven, and you (Padre) that I have sinned through my own fault, in what I have thought, said and done, and in what I have failed to do . .

Here the penitent confesses particular sins, ending

For these and all other sins which I cannot now remember, I pray for God's grace and ask forgiveness.

The minister may, with the consent of the penitent, offer words of comfort and counsel; and may recommend some prayer or action as a token of repentance.

The penitent expresses sorrow and repentance in these or his/her own words

I am sorry and ashamed, and repent of all my sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for me, forgive me all that is past; and lead me out from darkness to walk in the light of life. Amen.

The chaplain lays hands on, or extends hands over the penitent and says the absolution.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who has left power to his Church to absolve all sinners who truly repent and believe in him, of his great mercy forgive you your offences; and by his authority committed to me, I absolve you from all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If the minister is a deacon or a lay person, these words are used

May almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving

The minister says

Merciful God, we thank you that you have delivered this your servant from the power of sin and restored *him/her* to your peace in the fellowship of the Church; strengthen *him/her* by your Spirit, that *he/she* may please you until *he/she* comes to the fullness of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The minister says

Go (*or abide*) in peace; the Lord has put away your sins, and pray for me, a sinner.

The ministry of reconciliation is available for all who desire it.

Confessions may be heard anytime and anywhere. They may take place face to face, or with the penitent kneeling at the side of the chaplain.

The content of a confession is not normally a matter of subsequent discussion between a penitent and confessor. The secrecy of a confession is morally absolute for the confessor, and must not be broken. This order is based on a form in Methodist Worship.

Baptism on Active Service

This order should be conducted by a chaplain; should normally follow a Service of the Word; and may be followed by the Holy Communion It may be used with the sick, wounded or troubled when the brevity of emergency baptism is not required.

Introduction

The minister may use these or other words

Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.

Presentation of the Candidates

The minister asks the adult candidates for baptism

[Therefore *N and N* I ask] do you wish to be baptised?

The candidates answer

I do.

The minister may address the congregation, if present.

People of God, will you welcome *these candidates*
and uphold *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

All **With the help of God, we will.**

The Chaplain on a Humanitarian Mission may be asked to baptize children. He shall say to Parents and Godparents

In Baptism *these children* begin their journey in faith.

You speak for *them* today.

Will you pray for *them*,
and walk with them in the way of Christ?

Will you care for *them*,
and help *them* worship in the Church?

The Parents and Godparents answer

With the help of God, we will.

The Decision

A large candle may be lit. The minister addresses the candidates.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into his marvellous light.
To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life with him.

I therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?
I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?
I renounce evil.

Signing with the Cross

A minister makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate, saying

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

All Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
**Fight valiantly under the banner of Christ
against sin, the world and the devil,
and continue his faithful soldiers and servants
the end of your lives.**

from ASB 1980

May almighty God
deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of his glory,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
All **Amen.**

Prayer over the Water

Praise God who made heaven and earth,
All **who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

[We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.] *The bracketed words may be omitted.*

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we baptize into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.

Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, they may be cleansed from sin and born again. Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

Amen.

Profession of Faith

Let us affirm, [together with these who are being baptized,]
our common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
who made the world?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son, Jesus Christ,
who has redeemed us all?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in his Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God?

All **I believe and trust in him.**

The minister may address the congregation, if present.

This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Or the Apostle's Creed may be said (inside front cover.)

Baptism

The president may say to each adult candidate

N, is this your faith?

Each adult candidate answers in their own words, or

This is my faith.

*The minister dips each candidate in water,
or pours water on them, saying*

*N, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

All **Amen.**

The Welcome and Peace

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism: *N and N*,
by one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

*The minister greets the newly baptised
[and the congregation] with the Peace.*

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of Peace.

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you

*The Holy Communion may follow, see page XXX. On active service
the newly baptised may be admitted to the Holy Communion on the
understanding they will be confirmed at the earliest opportunity. If
there is no Communion, the Lord's Prayer and concluding prayers
are said. These prayers may also be used after Communion.*

If children have been baptised, this prayer should be said.

Faithful and loving God, bless those who care for *these children* and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith. Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love, and protect their *home* from all evil. Fill them with the light of your presence and establish them in the joy of your kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In difficult times this prayer should be said

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, preserve in your people the new life of baptism; as Christ receives us on earth, so may he guide us through the trials of this world, and enfold us in the joy of heaven, where you live and reign, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

This prayer shall always be said

God of grace and life, in your love you have given us a place among your people; keep us faithful to our baptism, and prepare us for that glorious day when the whole creation will be made perfect in your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The minister may bless the people.

Giving of a Lighted Candle

With these words the minister, or another person may give each of the newly baptised a lighted candle

Receive this light.

When all the newly baptised have received a candle, the minister says

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith.**

When appropriate the minister may say this dismissal.

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Collect for Holy Baptism

This opening prayer may be used at the Service of the Word.

Heavenly Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit you give to your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit, that we who are born again may serve you in faith and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit now and for ever. **Amen.**

Emergency Baptism

In an emergency, a lay person may be the minister of baptism, and should subsequently inform those who have the pastoral responsibility for the person so baptized.

The following form is sufficient.

The minister pours water on the person to be baptized, saying

*N, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

All Amen.

*The minister may then say the Lord's Prayer
and the Grace or a blessing.*

If it is appropriate, some of the fuller order may be used.

Conditional Baptism

*If there is reasonable doubt that a person has been Baptised
this conditional form shall be used:*

*N, if you have not been baptised,
I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

All Amen.

*This conditional form may also be used in the other orders of Baptism
in this book.*

Emergency Baptism – Fuller Order

Before the Baptism

Jesus says: I have come that you may have life
and have it in all its fullness. *John 10.10*

All that the Father gives me will come to me;
and whoever comes to me I will not turn away *John 6.37*

Heavenly Father, grant that by your Holy Spirit
this *man/woman* may be born again
and know your love in the new creation
given us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

At the Signing with the Cross

*N, may Christ protect and defend you.
Receive the sign of his cross.*

Prayer over the Water

A chaplain may use this prayer blessing the water.

Heavenly Father,
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
bless this water,
that whoever is washed in it
may be made one with Christ
in the fellowship of your Church,
and be brought through every tribulation
to share the risen life
that is ours in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The minister pours water on the person to be baptised, saying

N, I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

After the Baptism

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

(Full text inside cover)

Eternal God, our beginning and our end,
preserve in your people the new life of baptism;
as Christ receives us on earth,
so may he guide us through the trials of this world,
and enfold us in the joy of heaven,
where you live and reign,
one God for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

Ministry at the Time of Death

The Last Rites

Where possible the minister prepares the dying person in private, using the Preparation and Reconciliation sections. The person should be helped to be aware that the time of death is approaching. If they can attend family and friends should join the minister and the dying person at the Opening Prayer. The dying person may be baptized, if he has not been so. Holy Communion may be celebrated or administered to all the baptised present. The different sections of the service may happen at different times, and the last communion may be received on another occasion, and more than once, as pastoral necessity dictates.

Preparation

One or more of the following short texts may be said with the dying person. They may be softly repeated two or three times.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? *Romans 8.35*

We will be with the Lord for ever. *1 Thessalonians 4.17*

We will see God as he is. *1 John 3.2*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul *Psalms 25.1*

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?

Psalms 27.1

Into your hands I commend my spirit;

for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth *Psalms 31.5*

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. *Acts 7.59*

Reconciliation

The minister may use as much of the order of reconciliation on page XXX as is appropriate to the dying person's condition. If a formal act of contrition is not possible, the penitent should repeat these or similar words after the minister:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution is given, and at this point others may join the minister and the dying person for the rest of the rites.

Opening Prayer

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Let us pray.

(Silence)

Eternal God, grant to your servant [and to us who surround *him/her*
with our prayers] your peace beyond understanding. Give us faith, the
comfort of your presence, and the words to say to one another and to
you, as we gather in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Out of the depths I cry to you:

Lord, hear my voice.

Lord, have mercy.

[All **Lord, have mercy.]**

If you should mark what is done amiss: who may abide it?

Christ, have mercy.

[All **Christ, have mercy.]**

Trust in the Lord, for with him there is mercy:

for with him is ample redemption.

Lord, have mercy.

[All **Lord, have mercy.]**

The Word of God

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who
loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels,
nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor
height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to
separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.37-39. or another suitable reading.

*The minister may encourage an act of faith. The following are
examples. They may be repeated in short sections after the minister.*

Holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

I trust you, I believe in you, I love you.

(or) Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

(or) Lord, I believe: help my unbelief.

(or) Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.

The following prayers may be said together or by the minister alone.

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for all the benefits you have won for us, for all the pains and insults you have borne for us. Most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. **Amen.**

Gracious Father, in darkness and light, in trouble and in joy, help us to trust your love, to serve your purpose and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy Baptism

If the dying person has not been baptised, and desires to be so, the order of emergency baptism (page XXX) may be used, or else as much of the longer order (page XXX) as is appropriate. The minister should take care to avoid duplication: these rites require only one act of repentance, one expression of faith, and one Lord's Prayer.

Laying on of Hands

The minister, together with others if that is appropriate, may lay hands on the dying person. This prayer may be used

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ I/we lay *my/our* hands on you, *N*. May the Lord in his mercy and love uphold you by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. May he deliver you from all evil, give you light and peace, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Anointing. *(Omitted in the absence of a chaplain or lay-minister)*
If consecrated oil is not available, the chaplain blesses olive oil:

Lord, Holy Father, giver of health and salvation, as your apostles anointed those who were sick and healed them, so continue the ministry of healing in your Church. Sanctify this oil, that those who are anointed with it may be freed from suffering and distress, find inward peace, and know the joy of your salvation, through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The chaplain or authorized lay-minister may anoint the dying person, making the sign of the cross in oil on his or her forehead [and hands].

N, I anoint you with oil in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May the Lord in his love and mercy uphold you by the grace and power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

When it is completed, the minister may add

As you are outwardly anointed with this holy oil, so may our heavenly Father grant you the inward anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Of his great mercy may he forgive you your sins and release you from suffering. May he deliver you from all evil, preserve you in all goodness and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Holy Communion

If possible Holy Communion should be received. A lay-minister or chaplain may distribute the reserved sacrament; or else a chaplain may celebrate using an authorized Eucharistic Prayer.

Commendation

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

All **Our Father, who art in heaven . . .** (*Full text inside cover*)

The minister speaks first to the dying person:

N, go forth from this world: in the love of God the Father who created you, in the mercy of Jesus Christ who redeemed you, in the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you. May the heavenly host sustain you and the company of heaven enfold you. In communion with all the faithful, may you dwell this day in peace. **Amen.**

The minister says the prayer of commendation

Gracious God, nothing in death or life, nothing in the world as it is, nothing in the world as it shall be, nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. Jesus commended his spirit into your hands at his last hour. Into those same hands we now commend your servant *N*, that dying to the world and cleansed from sin, death may be for him/her the gate to life and to eternal fellowship with you; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

This Russian Contakion may be said:

All **Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with the saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all: and we are mortal, formed from the dust of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so you ordained when you created me, saying: 'Dust you are and to dust you shall return.' All of us go down to the dust, yet weeping at the grave we make our song:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All **Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with the saints:
where sorrow and pain are no more,
neither sighing, but life everlasting.**

Blessing

May the eternal God bless and keep us, guard our bodies, save our souls and bring us safe to the heavenly country, our eternal home, where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit reign, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Prayer when someone has just died

The chaplain, or a friend may use any of these prayers.

In this moment of sorrow the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word: No eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him. Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted.

Into your hands, O Lord, we humbly entrust our *brother/sister N*. In this life you embraced him/her with your tender love, and opened to him/her the gate of heaven. The old order has passed away, as you welcome *him/her* into paradise, where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, but the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, into whose hands Jesus Christ commended his spirit at the last hour: into those same hands we now commend your servant *N*, that death may be for *him/her* the gate to life and to eternal fellowship with you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remember, O Lord, this your servant, who has gone before us with the sign of faith and now rests in the sleep of peace. According to your promises, grant to *him/her* and to all who rest in Christ, refreshment, light and peace; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding, surround the family and comrades of *N* with your love, that they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness, and strength to meet the days to come, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Rest eternal grant into *him/her*, O Lord.

All **And let light perpetual shine upon *him/her*.**

May the souls of the faithful,
through the mercy of God rest in peace. **Amen.**

Prayer when Facing Death Yourself

If you are about to die, say the Lord's Prayer and the Apostles Creed if you can. In your own words ask God to forgive you the sins you have committed, to have mercy on all you have wronged or injured, and to forgive all who have sinned against you. Pray for your family and any others who especially deserve your prayers, and say:

Almighty God, I entrust all who are dear to me to your love and care, in this life and eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

As your earthly life comes to a close us these words of Jesus:

Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

Prayer before the Funeral

This service may be adapted for use on hearing the news of a death, as part of the minister's visit to the mourners before the Funeral.

Hymns may be sung at appropriate points.

Preparation

At this time of sorrow the Lord is in our midst and consoles us with his word: Blessed are the sorrowful; they shall be comforted. Blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation. He comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who grieve with the same consolation we have received from him.

Readings

These or other appropriate readings may be used

Reading 1

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. *I*

Thessalonians 4.13-15

Reading 2

I will lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth

He will not suffer your foot to stumble;
he who watches over you will not sleep.

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel
shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord himself watches over you;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,
So that the sun shall not strike you by day,
neither the moon by night.

The Lord shall keep you from all evil;
it is he who shall keep your soul.

The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth for evermore. *Psalms 121*

Reading 3

Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.'

John 11.21-24

Prayer

Memories of the departed may be shared, ending with this prayer

O God, who brought us to birth, and in whose arms we die, in our grief and shock contain and comfort us; embrace us with your love, give us hope in our confusion and grace to let go into new life; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

These or other prayers may follow

Lord, we come into your presence to remember *Nand* to seek your comfort, for we know that nothing can separate us from your love and that you support us in our sorrow. We are sure that the souls of the righteous are with you and that nothing can harm them. Although they have died they are in peace. Give us your strength to rejoice that you have taken *Nto* be with yourself where *he/she* shall no more be in need. May we find life and peace and perfect joy with *him/her* in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God of all consolation, in your unending love and mercy you turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life. Your Son, by dying for us, conquered death and, by rising again, restored to us eternal life. May we then go forward eagerly to meet our redeemer and, after our life on earth, be reunited with all our brothers and sisters in that place where every tear is wiped away and all things are made new; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Lord, be with us as we open the door. Come in with us, go out with us. Do not sleep when we sleep, but watch over us, protect us and keep us safe, our only helper and maker. **Amen.** *cf Psalm 121*

Conclusion

And now to him who is able to keep us from falling, and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the bright mountain of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy; to him be power and authority, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

May the infinite and glorious Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, direct our life in good works, and after our journey through this world, grant us eternal rest with the saints. **Amen.**

Funeral Service – Repatriation Service

General Notes

This service is to commend baptised persons, or those whose family histories root them in the Christian tradition.

In the absence of a chaplain or accredited lay-minister this Christian Funeral Service may be lead by any baptised person acceptable to those assembled for the ceremony. When no chaplain is available, the commander or senior person concerned shall normally officiate, or else delegate to another.

This Funeral or Repatriation Service is designed to be used in extremis, and may be read straight through without pause or interpolation of hymns. Except for the specific forms of committal, alternatives are indented. Reading the first option on every occasion will provide an order that will not be inappropriate to any funeral. But this order, with careful choice of readings, hymns and other music will expand to meet the needs of a military or civilian funeral in a grand or simple church, with as much ceremony as is deemed appropriate. This order may be used as a Memorial Service in the absence of the body, or as Repatriation Service even if a full military funeral follows elsewhere.

This and the other pastoral offices in this book follow the directions and texts offered in the Pastoral Services Book of the Common Worship series. Space does not permit the inclusion of equivalent rites from all the sending churches, but this funeral service, and the other pastoral services in this section, should prove acceptable to most who desire Christian Ministry.

Pastoral Introduction

God's love and power extend over all creation. Every life, including our own, is precious to God. Christians have always believed that there is hope in death as in life, and that there is new life in Christ over death. Even those who share such faith find that there is a real sense of loss at the death of a loved one. We will each have had our own experiences of their life and death, with different memories and different feelings of love, grief and respect. To acknowledge this at the beginning of the service should help us to use this occasion to express our faith and our feelings as we say farewell, to acknowledge our loss and our sorrow, and to reflect on our own mortality.

The Gathering

The service should take place in a Church or Chapel whenever possible, or else in the most decent and convenient place of assembly. The chaplain may receive the coffin at the entrance, and escort it to a position of honour as some of these sentences of Scripture are read.

‘I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.’
John 11.25,26

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.
Job 19.25-27

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. So we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4.14,17b, 18

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is his faithfulness.

Lamentations 3.22,23

We brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

1 Timothy 6.7; Job 1.21b

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. *Matthew 5.4*
God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Introduction

The minister says

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

The minister introduces the service in these or other suitable words

We have come here today to remember before God our *brother/sister N*;
to give thanks for *his/her* life;
to commend *him/her* to God our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit *his/her* body to the journey home / to be buried / to be cremated,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

The minister may say one of these gathering prayers

Gracious Father, in darkness and light, in trouble and in joy, help us to trust your love, to serve your purpose and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(or) Heavenly Father, in your Son Jesus Christ you have given us a true faith and a sure hope. Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days, that we may live as those who believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A hymn may be sung.

More briefly, a single prayer may be used after the introduction. This may be a Gathering Prayer (above), or a Collect (below). The Tribute may be omitted, and the service may continue with the Psalm or the Reading.

The Tribute

The friends and family may here remember and honour the life of the person who has died, and may evidence God's grace and work in them. At the discretion of the chaplain non-scriptural readings and secular music may be used as part of the tribute, and pictures and symbols may be placed on display. The tribute should remain subordinate to the Service of the Word, which follows.

A hymn may be sung.

The Service of the Word

The Collect

The minister says this or another suitable Collect

Merciful Father, hear our prayers and comfort us; renew our trust in your Son, whom you raised from the dead; strengthen our faith that all who have died in the love of Christ will share in his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(or) God of love, you have bound us together in life with *N/those we love* and opened the door of heaven through the suffering and resurrection of Jesus; look upon us in your mercy, give us courage to face our grief and bring us all to the fullness of the risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the Old or New Testament may be read

Psalm 23 or another psalm, hymn or scriptural song may be sung

Psalm 23 (Common Worship Version)

This version may be said by a reader with or without the response.

All I will fear no evil; for you are with me.

The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

All I will fear no evil; for you are with me.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.

All I will fear no evil; for you are with me.

Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

All I will fear no evil; for you are with me.

Or the Metrical Versions of Psalm 23 - "The Lord's my Shepherd."

Gospel Reading

This or some other Bible reading shall be used.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' *John 14.1-6*

Sermon

A sermon is preached if some qualified person is present.

Either of these Canticles may be used, or hymn may be sung.

A Song of the Righteous Wisdom 3.1, 2a, 3b-8

All **God has found the righteous worthy
and their hope is of immortality.**

The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God
and no torment will ever touch them.

In the eyes of the foolish, they seem to have died;
but they are at peace.

All **God has found the righteous worthy
and their hope is of immortality.**

For though, in the sight of others, they were punished,
their hope is of immortality.

Having been disciplined a little,
they will receive great good,
because God tested them and found them worthy.

All **God has found the righteous worthy
and their hope is of immortality.**

Like gold in the furnace, God tried them
and, like a sacrificial burnt offering, accepted them.
In the time of their visitation, they will shine forth
and will run like sparks through the stubble.

They will govern nations and rule over peoples
and God will reign over them for ever and ever.

All **God has found the righteous worthy
and their hope is of immortality.**

A Song of Faith *1 Peter 1.3-4, 18-21*

All **God raised Christ from the dead, Alleluia!**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

All **God raised Christ from the dead, Alleluia!**

Into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading,
kept in heaven for you. Who are being protected by the power of
God through faith for a salvation, ready to be revealed in the last
time.

All **God raised Christ from the dead, Alleluia!**

The Prayers

1. Thanksgiving for the life of the departed.

God of mercy, Lord of life, you have made us in your image to reflect your truth and light: we give you thanks for *N* for the grace and mercy *he/she* received from you, for all that was good in *his/her* life, for the memories we treasure today we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alternatives

Father in heaven, we thank you because you made us in your own image and gave us gifts in mind, body and spirit. We thank you now for *N* and what *he/she* meant to each of us. As we honour *his/her* memory, make us more aware that you are the one from whom comes every perfect gift, including the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Father in heaven, we praise your name for all who have finished this life loving and trusting you, for the example of their lives, the life and grace you gave them, and the peace in which they rest. We praise you today for your servant *N* and for all that you did through him/her. Meet us in our sadness and fill our hearts with praise and thanksgiving, for the sake of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

2. For those who mourn.

God of mercy, Lord of life: Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death. Look in mercy on [... *and*] all who mourn. Give them patient faith in times of darkness, and strengthen them with the knowledge of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Alternatives

Almighty God, Father of all mercies and giver of all comfort: deal graciously, we pray, with those who mourn, that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

After a sudden death

God of hope, we come to you in shock and grief and confusion of heart. Help us to find peace in the knowledge of your loving mercy to all your children, and give us light to guide us out of our darkness into the assurance of your love, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

After an untimely death.

God of all mystery, whose ways are beyond understanding, lead us, who grieve at this untimely death, to a new and deeper faith in your love, which brought your only Son Jesus through death into resurrection life. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

3. For readiness to live in the light of eternity

God of mercy, Lord of life: You promised eternal life to those who believe. Remember for good this your servant *N* as we also remember *him/her*. Bring us, with all the faithful departed, into the fullness of your kingdom where sins have been forgiven and death is no more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Alternatives

Teach us, Lord, to number our days; to see the span of our life in the light of eternity. Reveal your splendour to us. Give us the wisdom and grace to know your love and to rejoice in your forgiveness and life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, we pray that, encouraged by the example of your saints, we may run with patience the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith; so that at the last we may join those whom we love in your presence where there is fullness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid', take away our fear of death; bring us to the place he has gone to prepare for us; and give us his peace for ever. **Amen.**

God of mercy, Lord of life: You promised eternal life to those who believe. Remember for good this your servant *N* as we also remember *him/her*. Bring us, with all the faithful departed, into the fullness of your kingdom where sins have been forgiven and death is no more, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

God of mercy, we are in trouble and we call to you. Deliver us from deceit, and the pain of the enemy's attack. And give us peace, the peace Christ won upon the cross. **Amen.**

4. Concluding Prayer

God of mercy, Lord of Life: entrusting into your hands all that you have made, and rejoicing in our communion with all your faithful people, we gather our prayers in the words our saviour Christ has taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven . . . (*full text inside front cover*)

Either or both of these prayers may be added.

Faithful Lord, lift us up when we are down. Watch over us and keep us safe. Be with us in our going out and in our coming in, now and for ever. **Amen.**

May the infinite and glorious Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, direct our life in good works, and after our journey through this world, grant us eternal rest with the saints. **Amen.**

Commendation and Farewell

*The minister stands by the coffin
and may invite others to gather around it.*

The minister says

Let us commend *N* to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept.

*The minister uses this or another prayer of entrusting and commending
God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death
and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises,
we entrust *N* to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is
alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen.***

*The words “*N*. go forth upon your journey . . .” (page XXX) may be added
unless they are to be used later in a repatriation ceremony*

*If the Committal does **not** follow as part of the same service in the same
place, this or some other ending is used These words may be said as the
minister escorts the coffin out of the church or place of assembly.*

Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon)

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;
A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

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.**

Rest eternal grant into *him/her*, O Lord.

All **And let light perpetual shine upon *him/her*.**

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church,
living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection
and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom. **Amen.**

(or) May the eternal God bless and keep us, guard our bodies,
save our souls and bring us safe to the heavenly country,
our eternal home, where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit reign,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*A service not in the presence of the body ends here,
otherwise the Coffin is removed to the place of Committal.*

The Committal

The Committal takes place at the graveside, or the crematorium, or at the doors of an aircraft, hearse or other transport.

Where the committal is separate from the main service, it is common for the family (or other chief mourners) to be alone with the minister.

Sentences of Scripture may be used

The minister says

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great goodness. As a father is tender towards his children, so is the Lord tender to those that fear him. For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust. Our days are like the grass; we flourish like a flower of the field; when the wind goes over it, it is gone and its place will know it no more. But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures for ever and ever toward those that fear him and his righteousness upon their children's children.

(or) We have but a short time to live. Like a flower we blossom and then wither; like a shadow we flee and never stay. In the midst of life we are in death; to whom can we turn for help, but to you, Lord, who are justly angered by our sins? Yet, Lord God most holy, Lord most mighty, O holy and most merciful Saviour, deliver us from the bitter pain of eternal death. Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts; hear our prayer, O God most mighty; spare us, most worthy judge eternal; at our last hour let us not fall from you, O holy and merciful Saviour.

The minister uses one of the following forms of Committal.

1. Repatriation

At the tailgate of the aircraft, at the hearse, or at the entrance to any transport, these words are said.

We have entrusted our *brother/sister* N to God's mercy, and now, with distant loved ones in our prayers, we send *his/her* body home.

N, go forth upon your journey to your final resting place, in the love of God the Father who created you, in the mercy of Jesus Christ who redeemed you, in the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you. May the Lord's armies defend you, may angels and archangels guide you, and may you come home to dwell in peace. **Amen.**

Or this form may be used

We have entrusted our *brother/sister* N to God's mercy, and now return *his/her* body to be received by loved ones at home, and laid to rest in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ who shall gather all his saints to reign with him in glory for ever.

2. *Burial or Cremation*

At a Burial in unconsecrated ground a priest may first bless the grave:

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ was laid in a tomb: bless, we pray, this grave as the place where the body of N your servant may rest in peace, through your Son, who is the resurrection and the life; who died and is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

From the head of the grave or at the crematorium these words are said.

We have entrusted our *brother/sister N* to God's mercy, and we now commit *his/her* body to the *ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies that they may be conformed to his glorious body, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. To him be glory for ever. **Amen.**

**or to be cremated*

3. *Burial at Sea*

Lord God, by the power of your word you stilled the chaos of the primeval seas, you made the raging waters of the flood subside, and calmed the storm on the sea of Galilee. As we commit the body of our *brother/sister N*, to the deep, grant *him/her* peace and tranquillity until that day when *he/she* and all who believe in you will be raised to the glory of new life promised in the waters of baptism. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Roman Catholic Rite

The Dismissal

Prayers

This or other suitable prayers, may be used

Support us, O Lord, all the day long of this troublous life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes, the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then, Lord, in your mercy grant us a safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

John, Cardinal Newman

Ending

May the eternal God bless and keep us, guard our bodies, save our souls and bring us safe to the heavenly country, our eternal home, where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit reign, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Or a Chaplain may end with this blessing.

May God give *you* his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Brief Burial at Sea or in the Field of Battle

To be used by any person in case of exceptional haste.

The Scripture Sentence

‘I am the resurrection and the life,’ says the Lord. ‘Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.’ *John 11.25,26*

The Commendation

(Let us commend *N* to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.)

Silence is kept.

God our creator and redeemer, by your power Christ conquered death and entered into glory. Confident of his victory and claiming his promises, we entrust *N* to your mercy in the name of Jesus our Lord, who died and is alive and reigns with you, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Committal

A chaplain may first bless the grave:

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ was laid in a tomb: bless, we pray, this grave as the place where the body of *N* your servant may rest in peace, though your Son, who is the resurrection and the life; who died and is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The reader stands at the head of the grave, and says:

We have entrusted our *brother/sister N* to God’s mercy, and we now commit *his/her* body to the *ground: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust: in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our frail bodies that they may be conformed to his glorious body, who died, was buried, and rose again for us. To him be glory for ever. **Amen.**

*For burial at sea use * to the deep, or the form on the previous page.*

The Lord's Prayer

(Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us.)

Our Father, who art in heaven . . . (*Full text inside front cover*)

The Ending

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom **Amen.**

(*or*) May the eternal God bless and keep us, guard our bodies, save our souls and bring us safe to the heavenly country, our eternal home, where Father, Son, and Holy Spirit reign, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Hymns, Songs and Carols

As space and copyright permit:

Hymns

Abide with me

And did those feet

Amazing Grace

Colours of Day

Eternal Father

Eternal Father (Tri Service Edition)

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bid'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to thee,
for those in peril on the sea.

O Christ, the Universal Lord,
who suffered death by nails and sword,
from all assault of deadly foe
sustain thy soldiers where they go;
and evermore hold in thy hand
all those in peril on the land.

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace
Who fills with strength the human race;
Inspire mankind to know the right,
Guide all who dare the eagle's flight;
And underneath thy wings of care
Guard all from peril in the air.

O Trinity of love and power!
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,
Praise from the air, the land and sea.

*Gonna lay down my sword and shield
Guide me O thou great redeemer
I danced in the morning
I vow to thee my country
Lord of all hopefulness
Majesty
Mine Eyes have seen the glory
Morning has broken
Peace, perfect peace.
The Lord's my shepherd
There is a green hill
Thine be the glory*

Carols

*Away in a manger
Good King Wenceslas
Hark the herald angels sing
O come all ye faithful
Once in royal David's city
Silent night
We three kings
While shepherds watched*

Gweddi'r Arglwydd

The Lord's Prayer in Welsh

**Ein Tad, yr hwn wyt yn y nefoedd,
sancteiddier dy enw;
deled dy deyrnas;
gwneler dy ewyllus;
megis yn y nef, felly ar y ddaear hefyd.
Dyro i ni heddiw ein bara beunuddiol.
A maddau i ni ein dyledion,
fel y maddeuwn ninnau ein dyledwyr.
Ac nac arwain ni i brofedigaeth;
eithr gwared ni rhag drwg.
Cany eiddo ti yw'r deyrnas,
a'r gallu, a'r gogoniant,
yn oes oesoedd. Amen.**

Credo'r Apostolion.

The Apostles' Creed in Welsh

**Credaf yn Nuw Dad Hollgyfoethog,
creawdwr nef a daear.**

**Ac yn Iesu Grist ei unig Fab ef, ein Harglwydd ni,
yr hwn a gaed trwy'r Ysbryd Glan,
a aned o Fair Forwyn,
a ddioddefodd dan Pontius Pilat,
a groeshoeliwyd, a fu farw, ac a gladdwyd.
Disgynnodd i uffern.
Y trydydd dydd y cyfododd o feirw,
a esgynnodd i'r nefoedd,
ac y mae'n eistedd ar ddeheulaw Duw
Dad Hollgyfoethog;
oddi yno y daw i farnu'r byw a'r meirw.**

**Credaf yn yr Ysbryd Glan;
yr Eglwys Lan Gatholig;
cymun y saint;
maddeuant pechodau;
atgyfodiad y corff;
a'r bywyd tragwyddol. Amen**

For English texts see inside front cover

Nicene Creed

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic
and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*The form above is used in Roman Catholic,
Church of Scotland and Methodist services.
Welsh forms of The Lord's Prayer and Apostles' Creed
are printed on the previous page.*