

PARISH of ALSTON DOOR

Prayer & Praise

in Ordinary Time



TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome

If you have a query,
please speak to the welcomer on duty,
who will be glad to help you.

Prayer Requests

If you would like us to pray for someone or
something specific during the service,
please speak to the welcomer.

A Word to Children

You are very welcome
at all our services.
We want you to feel comfortable
and able to join in,
and we don't mind a bit of noise!

If you are in the church building

Standing, sitting, kneeling

This booklet suggests where to stand (typically, to praise God), to sit (to receive from God) and to kneel (to ask from God).

But feel free to stand, sit or kneel at any time, as you are most comfortable.

Loop System



This church is equipped with a loop system: please set hearing aids to the “T” position.

Livestreaming

This service will be livestreamed on Zoom and YouTube. If you prefer not to be filmed, please ask the welcomer where to sit.



If you are joining in online

Where to find us

Find us on Zoom (Meeting 357 123 751) or at www.alstonmoor.tiny.us/youtube

You may like to prepare ...

- the Easter candle, or another candle, and something to light it with
- a Bible and hymnbook – or today’s readings and hymns from our website

Microphones

Please keep your microphone muted, except when you are joining in the responses or prayers

Livestreaming

The service will be livestreamed on Zoom and YouTube. If you are uncomfortable with being seen online, or on a screen in church, please turn off your camera.



From earliest times, Christians have gathered at the beginning and end of each day to hear God's word, and to respond with praise on behalf of all creation and with prayer for the world.

On Sunday, the first day of the week, we commemorate both the first day of creation and Christ's resurrection. With Christians worshipping in all the world, we

- ¶ Gather in God's presence
- ¶ Confess the sins of the world, and receive God's forgiveness
- ¶ Listen to the Scriptures, and seek to hear what God is saying to us today
- ¶ Affirm our faith
- ¶ Pray for the whole of creation, especially those in particular need
- ¶ Praise God and give thanks for his goodness
- ¶ Receive God's blessing, as we commit ourselves once again to serve God's people in our community in the coming week



¶ **Gathering as God's People**

THE WELCOME

Please stand as the ministers enter

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you
All and also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

The world belongs to God,
All the earth and all its people.

◆ How good it is, how wonderful
All to live together in unity.

Love and faith come together;
All justice and peace join hands.

◆ Whether present in this building,
or joining in online

All We are united in the love of Christ.

We light our candles as a sign of Christ's presence among us

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

HYMN

PRAYER OF APPROACH

This or another prayer is used

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
creator of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You founded the earth in the beginning
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time
you made us in your image,
and in these last days you have spoken to us
in your Son Jesus Christ,
the Word made flesh.

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

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

SAYING SORRY, BEING FORGIVEN

These or other appropriate words are said

- ◆ Trusting in God's forgiveness,
let us confess our failings
and acknowledge our part
in the pain of the world.

We sit or kneel

Silence is kept, then

Either

All **Almighty God,
our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
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

◆ ... Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

◆ ... Christ, have mercy.

All Christ have mercy.

◆ ... Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

The minister assures us of God's forgiveness, in these or other words

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.

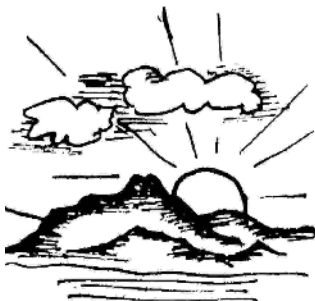
◆ Blessed is the Lord,
**All for he has heard
the voice of our prayer;**

◆ therefore shall our hearts dance for joy
**All and in our song
will we praise our God.**

THE COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

After a period of silent prayer the minister says the Collect and we respond

All Amen.



i We hear one or two readings from the Old and/or New Testament, as well as one from a Gospel (account of the life of Jesus).

Through the sermon we explore what God might be saying to us today through these readings. We respond by affirming our faith as we say the Creed, and by praying for the needs of the world.



¶ **Listening & Responding to God**

READINGS

We sit as we listen to readings from the Bible

At the end of each the reader says

Into ancient words

All you breathe new life.

A Psalm may also be read

HYMN

We stand

GOSPEL READING

We remain standing

The Gospel is introduced with an acclamation such as

◆ Alleluia, alleluia.
We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes
from the mouth of God.

All Alleluia

◆ 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.

ACTIVITY

We may have an activity for those who are young, or young at heart – either now or at another point in the service

SERMON OR REFLECTION

We sit

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

We stand

Either

◆ Let us declare our faith in God.

**All We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

cf Ephesians 3

Or

◆ In his words and his life,
Jesus shows us God's way.
Let us affirm again
our commitment to that way:

◆ Blessed are the poor in spirit,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

◆ Blessed are those who mourn,
All for they shall be comforted.

◆ Blessed are the meek,
All for they shall inherit the earth.

◆ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
after righteousness,
All for they shall be satisfied.

◆ Blessed are the merciful,
All for they shall obtain mercy.

◆ Blessed are the pure in heart,
All for they shall see God.

◆ Blessed are the peacemakers,
All for they shall be called children of God.

◆ Blessed are those who suffer persecution
for righteousness' sake,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

from Matthew 5

◆ In Jesus, the love of God comes close.
All We will walk in his way.

PRAYING FOR OTHERS

We sit or kneel

The prayers usually include these concerns:

- ¶ *The Church of Christ*
- ¶ *Creation and the environment*
- ¶ *Human society, the Queen, those in authority*
- ¶ *The local community*
- ¶ *Those who suffer*
- ¶ *The communion of saints*

One of these responses, or another, may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Or

Lord, hear us

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Or

Lord, your will be done



All Through our lives and by our prayers,



your King - dom come.

And at the end

Merciful Father

**All Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**



We remember Jesus' instruction not to bring gifts to God if we have anything against our brothers or sisters. So we share God's peace with one another before we give thanks for all that God has done for us, especially through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and offer ourselves to God's service.

¶ Giving Thanks to God

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

We stand

The minister introduces the Peace with words such as

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized
into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.

cf 1 Corinthians 12.13; Romans 14.19

The peace of the Lord be always with you

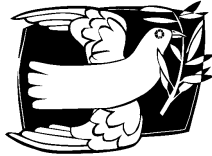
All And also with you

◆ Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace with immediate neighbours, for example in sign language, or with a handshake and greeting such as "Peace be with you"

HYMN

The Offertory is taken during this hymn



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We use either the First Prayer of Thanksgiving (below) or the Second Prayer of Thanksgiving on page 9

We remain standing

Prayer of Thanksgiving (1)

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

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.

For you, Creator God,
the valleys laugh and sing
and the trees of the field clap their hands.

Your earth summons us to break silence
and be one with the song of creation.

All We give you thanks and praise.

For you, God of all,
the church in its myriad forms
and countless languages honours its Saviour.
Millions upon millions invite us
to be one with them
in the drama of worship.

All We give you thanks and praise.

In heaven, beyond our seeing,
the angels and saints are caught up in song.
And those we have loved and lost
are part of that great company.
They call us to be one
with the harmony of heaven.

All We give you thanks and praise.

So, gladly, we join our voices
to those of earth, sea and sky,
in the universal hymn of praise
which echoes through time and eternity:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Creator God,
as we praise you for your goodness,
with Jesus we pray
for the beautiful but hurting world
you have entrusted to us.
May healing and joy abound,
justice and peace prevail,
the year of the Lord's favour be known
and your resurrection life
quicken your people
as we proclaim with confidence:

**All Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

As your Spirit groans
for the renewal of all creation,
send your Spirit on us
that we may be channels of your peace,
witnesses to your hope,
and dwellers in your joy,
through Jesus Christ,
life-giver, pain-bearer, love-maker.

All Amen.

*The service continues with the
Lord's Prayer on page 11*



Prayer of Thanksgiving (2)

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

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.

God our Maker,
mother and father of all that is,
you shaped wonderful creatures
from the dust of the earth
and breathed life into all that you made.

You called your children by name,
and journeyed with them through the world.

You went with them into exile,
and yearned with them for home-coming.

In the cries of the oppressed for justice,
and in the cries of the earth for rest,
you cried out too.

In your prophets
you brought comfort and challenge,
you unseated rulers and lifted the downcast,
and you gave your voice
to the silenced of the earth,
so that all might join together,
from mountain heights and ocean depths,
from city streets and the wildest edges
to sing your praise:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

In Jesus our brother,
you became flesh like us,
walking the same earth,
breathing the same air.

In Jesus, you made your home among us,
sharing tables with the outcast,
and washing tired and cracked feet.

With word and silence,
with action and stillness,
he revealed the power of a love
stronger than the powers-that-be,
and for that he was crucified.

But your love remained,
and you raised him to new life,
a life wild and free from temples and tombs,
a life of forgiveness, healing and peace:

All **Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Additional thanks may be added:

[Today we give you thanks, because...]

Send afresh on us your wild Spirit,
breath of life and wind of change.
Fill our lungs with your justice,
fill our hearts with your love,
and fill our voices with your praise:
for you alone are God,
and in you is our hope,
life-giver, pain-bearer, love-maker.

All **Amen.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

We sit or kneel

We pray the Lord's Prayer, in whichever version or language we wish

- ◆ Standing here among us is Jesus, so we join our prayers to his as we say:

Either:

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.

Or:

All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.



CLOSING PRAYER

All Lord Jesus,
we thank you for being with us
in our prayers and praises.
As you live in us, may we live in you.
Open our eyes
to see your presence in our world,
and by your Spirit
may we work together
to make all creation
a dwelling place for you, our God.
Amen.

We sit

*Notices may be read and Banns of Marriage
published*

HYMN

We stand





We have been fed spiritually by God's word as we have heard and reflected on the Scriptures, and by the fellowship we have shared together. Now we prepare to disperse, fortified by the Holy Spirit, and empowered by the resurrection life of Jesus to serve God in our daily lives.

¶ **Leaving in God's Strength**

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

Either:

THE GRACE

All 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.

◆ Let us bless the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Or:

THE BLESSING

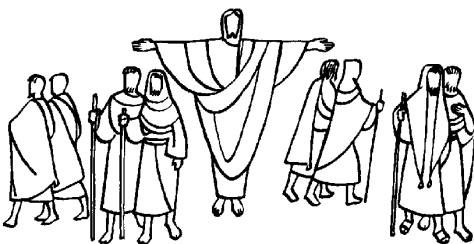
This or another suitable blessing is used

May the peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep *our* hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
and *may* the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among *us* and remain with *us* always.

All Amen.

◆ Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

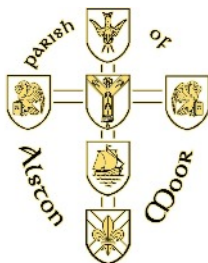
All In the name of Christ. Amen.



TO OUR VISITORS

Thank you
for worshipping with us today.

We thank God
for your presence in worship,
and we invite you to join us again soon.
Until then, may God bless you and keep
you safe.



Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England and New Patterns for Worship, material from which is included in this service, are copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000-2006.

The Iona Abbey Worship Book, material from which is included in this service, is copyright © The Iona Community 2016

Prayers for an Inclusive Church is copyright © 2008 Steven Shakespeare

Cover image by Sarah Steffens <https://www.flickr.com/photos/visionwithin/>
(Creative Commons licence)



January 2022