

PARISH of ALSTON DOOR

Morning Prayer & Praise

for the Feast of Christ the King
Sunday, 21st November 2021



To join in online:

- 👑 Go to www.zoom.us or use the Zoom app
- 👑 or phone 0131 460 1196 or 0203 481 5237
- 👑 Meeting ID 357-123-751



Before the service starts, you may like to prepare ...

- 👑 The Easter candle, or another candle
- 👑 Something to light the candle with

During the service

- 👑 This service will be livestreamed on Zoom and YouTube. If you don't want to be seen online, please keep your camera turned off – but say hello so we can welcome you!
- 👑 If you would like us to pray for someone or something specific during the service, please let us know
- 👑 Please keep your microphone muted during the service, except when you are joining in the responses or prayers

Gathering in God's Presence

THE WELCOME

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.

◆ From all eternity, beautiful and bright,

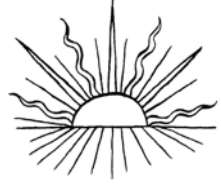
All **God is God.**

◆ Alpha and Omega, integrity and holiness,

All **God is God.**

◆ Truth and vulnerability, majesty and mystery,

All **God is God.**



Though we are physically apart

All **We are united in the love of Christ.**

O Lord, open our lips,

All **and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

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

HYMN

**O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his power and his love:
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.**

**O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old:
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.**

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!**

**O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
in true adoration shall sing to thy praise.**

Robert Grant (1779-1838)

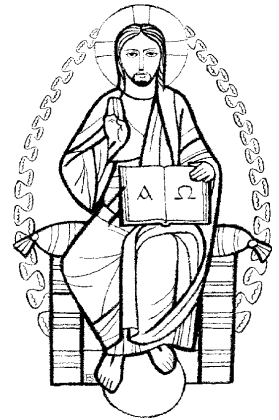
PRAYER OF APPROACH

God most High,
you who are,
who were,
who are to come,
before whose judgement
all fades away that is not love:

Cleanse our hearts of all unloving,
empty our minds of all distraction,
open our ears
to hear the whisper of your kingdom.

Lover of all and of each,
prepare us to meet you now,
to receive all you have to offer
and to give all that you ask of us,
through Jesus Christ, the wounded King of all.

All **Amen.**



SAYING SORRY, BEING FORGIVEN

These or other appropriate words are said

- ◆ Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Matthew 4.17

Silence is kept, then

- ◆ The kingdom is yours,
but we turn away from your just rule:

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

- ◆ The power is yours,
but we trust in our own power and strength:

Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ have mercy.**

- ◆ The glory is yours,
but we fall short of the glory of God:

Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

The minister assures us of God's forgiveness

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
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)

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.

All **Amen.**



Listening to God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT READING *DANIEL 7.9–10, 13, 14 (NRSVA)*

A reading from the Book of Daniel

⁹ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened.

¹³ As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

All **Into ancient words
you breathe new life.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING REVELATION 1.4B-8 (NRSVA)

A reading from the Revelation to John

4 Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

7 Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him, even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

8 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Into ancient words

All **you breathe new life.**

HYMN

**The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty victor's brow.**

**The highest place that heaven affords
is his, is his by right;
the King of kings and Lord of lords,
and heaven's eternal Light.**

**The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his Name to know.**

To them the cross with all its shame,
with all its grace, is given;
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below;
they reign with him above;
their profit and their joy to know
the mystery of his love.

The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

GOSPEL READING

- ◆ Alleluia, alleluia.
You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father.

All **Alleluia**

- ◆ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

- ◆ 33 Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the King of the Jews?'

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

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

36 Jesus answered, '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.'

37 Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?'

Jesus answered, '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.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON OR REFLECTION

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

from Matthew 5

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



Praying for Others

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 **Or** Lord, hear us
All **Hear our prayer.** **All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

And at the end

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people;
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

👑 **Giving Thanks**

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The minister introduces the Peace with words such as

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

◆ Let us share a sign of peace with one another.



cf Colossians 3.14,15

HYMN

**Meekness and majesty, manhood and deity,
in perfect harmony, the Man who is God.
Lord of eternity dwells in humanity,
kneels in humility and washes our feet.**

*O what a mystery, meekness and majesty.
Bow down and worship
for this is your God, this is your God.*

**Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence,
yet learns obedience to death on a cross.
Suffering to give us life, conqu'ring through sacrifice,
and as they crucify prays: 'Father forgive.'**

**Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,
love indestructible in frailty appears.
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.**

Graham Kendrick (b. 1950). Copyright © 1986 Thankyou Music



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 free from temples and tombs,
a life of forgiveness, healing and peace,
a kingship unlike any other:

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

Open our eyes that we may see him,
not arrayed in signs of worldly power
but in the embrace of friends,
in the banquet where all are equal,
and in the laughter of those whom the truth has set free.

Send afresh on us your Holy Spirit,
to 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 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.**

Notices may be given out

HYMN

**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified;
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends each burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise:
his reign shall know no end,
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

Taking Good News to the World

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

THE BLESSING

This or another suitable blessing is used

Christ our exalted King
pour upon you his abundant gifts
and bring you to reign with him in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

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.

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