

# Christ Church Prayer Services

## The Office of Morning Prayer

Thank you for joining us this morning for Morning Prayer! Please look around and say a prayer for the people around you during this difficult time. God bless you all.

Lord, open our lips, **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

### The Invitatory

God rules over all the earth: **O come, let us worship.**

The Lord is in his holy temple: **O come, let us worship.**

The Lord is our refuge and strength: **O come, let us worship.**

The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed: **O come, let us worship.**

### **Venite (Psalm 95.1–7)**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his for he made it, \*  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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## Readings:

### **Acts 7:55-60**

7:55 But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

7:56 "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

7:57 But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him.

7:58 Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

7:59 While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit."

7:60 Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

### **Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

31:1 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

31:2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

31:3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

31:4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.

31:5 Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

31:15 My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

31:16 Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

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## 1 Peter 2:2-10

2:2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation-

2:3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

2:4 Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and

2:5 like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

2:6 For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

2:7 To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,"

2:8 and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

2:9 But 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 marvelous light.

2:10 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.

## John 14:1-14

14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.

14:2 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?

14:3 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.

14:4 And you know the way to the place where I am going."

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14:5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"

14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

14:7 If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

14:8 Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied."

14:9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

14:11 Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

14:12 Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

14:13 I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14:14 If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us confess the faith of our baptism together as we say...

**The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,**

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his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He 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,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the People

In joy and hope let us pray to the source of all life, saying, “Hear us, Lord of glory!”

That our risen Saviour may fill us with the joy of his holy and life-giving resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That isolated and persecuted churches may find fresh strength in the Easter gospel, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may grant us humility to be subject to one another in Christian love, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may provide for those who lack food, work, or shelter, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

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That by his power wars and famine may cease through all the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may reveal the light of his presence to the sick, the weak, and the dying, that they may be comforted and strengthened, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

That he may send the fire of the Holy Spirit upon his people, that we may bear faithful witness to his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

**Hear us, Lord of glory!**

## **Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **Prayer Over The Gifts**

Gracious God, you show us your way and give us your divine life. May everything we do be directed by the knowledge of your truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord.

## **The Lords Prayer**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,**

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the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace.

**Amen.**