

Sunday 6th December 2020

Prayer and worship at home



Preparation

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

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Act of Penitence

*As we pray, we reflect on the week that has passed
and ask the Lord for his forgiveness and healing.*

God, through Jesus Christ,
will judge the secret thoughts of all:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,'
will enter the kingdom of heaven:
Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Let anyone who has an ear
listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches:
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Words of Forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Special Prayer for this week

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as
judge and saviour
we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God. **Amen**

The Word of the Lord

First Reading *Isaiah 40. 1-11*

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."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I
cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the
flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower
fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the
flower fades; but the word of our God will stand
forever.

Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of
good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O
Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not
fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your
God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his
arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his
recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a
shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and
carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother
sheep.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel | *Mark 1. 1-8*

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ...

Glory to you, O Lord

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the
Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See,
I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will
prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the
wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his
paths straight,"' John the baptizer appeared in the

wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**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**

Prayers of Intercession

*You may wish to offer prayer in your own words,
or be prompted by the words here*

*We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety
and fear...*

We pray for our nation and its well-being...

*We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we
remember all those self-isolating at the moment...*

*We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for
those who feel cut off from friends and family...*

*We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all
whom we remember with love and affection*

The Lord's Prayer

Joining with Christians throughout the world,
we pray:

Our Father....

Or

Our Father in heaven....

The Grace

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen**

Readings for the coming week:

Monday	Psalm 30	Luke 5.17-26
Tuesday	Psalm 36	Matthew 18.12-14
Wednesday	Psalm 34	Matthew 11.28-end
Thursday	Psalm 54	Matthew 11.11-15
Friday	Psalm 86	Matthew 11.16-19
Saturday	Psalm 42	Matthew 17.10-13

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate
us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

