

EVENING PRAYER FOR USE AT HOME Sunday 22nd November 2020 The Sunday before Advent: The Kingship of Christ



CHRIST THE KING
FROM THE GREAT WEST WINDOW
OF BELFAST CATHEDRAL

OPENING RESPONSES:

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

PSALM: 108

O God, my heart is ready, my heart is ready *

I will sing and give praise with the best member that I have.

Awake, thou lute, and harp *

I myself will awake right early.

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, among the people *

I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.

For thy mercy is greater than the heavens *

and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Set up thyself, O God, above the heavens *

and thy glory above all the earth.

That thy beloved may be delivered *

let thy right hand save them, and hear thou me.

God hath spoken in his holiness *

I will rejoice therefore, and divide Sichem, and mete out the valley of Succoth.

Gilead is mine, and Manasses is mine *

Ephraim also is the strength of my head.

Judah is my law-giver, Moab is my wash-pot *

over Edom will I cast out my shoe; upon Philistia will I triumph.

Who will lead me into the strong city *

and who will bring me into Edom?

Hast not thou forsaken us, O God *

and wilt not thou, O God, go forth with our hosts?

O help us against the enemy *

for vain is the help of man.

Through God we shall do great acts *

and it is he that shall tread down our enemies.

Glory be to the Father: and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 2 Samuel 23:1-7

Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,

the oracle of the man whom God exalted,

the anointed of the God of Jacob,

the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

The spirit of the Lord speaks through me,

his word is upon my tongue.

The God of Israel has spoken,

the Rock of Israel has said to me:

One who rules over people justly,

ruling in the fear of God,

is like the light of morning,

like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,

gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,

ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper

all my help and my desire?

But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;

for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

to touch them one uses an iron bar

or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

MAGNIFICAT:

My soul doth magnify the Lord:

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded:

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold, from henceforth:

all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me:

and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him:

throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm:

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat:

and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things:

and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:

as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father:

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

world without end. Amen.

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 28:16-20

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

NUNC DIMITTIS:

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:

according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen:

thy salvation.

Which thou hast prepared:

before the face of all people.

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father:

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED:

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And 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, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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 Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done,
In earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY:

Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruits of good works, may of thee plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST ALL PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord: and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYERS

FOR THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed; Kindle, we pray thee, in every heart the true love of peace; and guide with thy pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity thy kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of thy love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR HOSPITALS AND INFIRMARIES

Almighty God, whose blessed Son went about doing good, and healing all manner of sickness; Continue, we beseech thee, this his gracious work among us, especially in the hospitals and infirmaries of our land; cheer, heal, and sanctify the sick; grant to the physicians, surgeons, and nurses wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience; and send down thy blessing on all who labour to relieve suffering and to forward thy purposes of love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR THOSE IN AFFLICTION OR DISTRESS

Almighty Father, be present, we beseech thee, with those who are in sorrow, in suffering, in sickness, or in distress; and be thou their abiding stay and succour; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

FOR ABSENT FRIENDS

O God, who art present in every place; Mercifully hear our prayers for those whom we love, now absent from us; watch over them, we beseech thee, and protect them in all anxiety, danger, and temptation; teach us and them to know that thou art always near, and that we are one in thee for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

A PRAYER OF ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

THE GRACE

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.**



CATHEDRAL FLOWERS PROVIDED THIS SUNDAY AND LAST BY DR. MARION GIBSON IN MEMORY OF HER LATE HUSBAND CANON TOM GIBSON



NOTICES



Under the Executive Restrictions announced on Thursday 19th November
The Cathedral will remain Closed for all events and all Public Worship until Friday 11th
December when the situation will be reviewed by the Executive.

While the cathedral remains closed, please make use of the service of Evening Prayer, which can be downloaded from the cathedral website.

Services Sunday 29th November: Advent Sunday

11.00am Service of the Word for Advent Sunday Livestreamed

Regrettably the 6.00pm Advent Carol Service has been cancelled due Executive Restrictions on Public Church Services.

Christmas Carol Services at Belfast Cathedral

Due to the new restrictions

we are unable at present to confirm details for this year's Cathedral Carol Services, planned for 22nd -24th December.

Confirmation of Carol Service Times and Booking Arrangements will be posted on the Cathedral Website and Facebook Pages.

This year, due to the restrictions, there will be no Service of Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve.

However there will be a

Festival Eucharist for Christmas Morning at Belfast Cathedral starting at 11.00am.

Seating for this service will be on a first come, first served basis on the day.

Hymns suitable for use at home:

ICH 34

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 thunder-clouds 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 ransomed creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Words: Robert Grant (1779-1838) based on Psalm 104

Tune: HANOVER from 'A supplement to the New Version (1708) probably by William Croft (1678-1727)

ICH 263

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 virgin's Son the God incarnate born, whose conquering arm those trophies won which now his brow adorn: the Saviour long foretold, the branch of Jesse's stem, the eternal shepherd of his fold, the babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear the sight,
but downwards bends his wondering eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife, for those he came to save: his glories now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be love and praise:
his reign shall know no end;
and round his piercéd feet
the thousand tones of earth shall blend
in concord 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.

Words Matthew Bridges (1800-94) and Geoffrey Thring (1823-1903) based on Revelation 19:12 Tune: DIADEMATA George J. Elvey (1816-93)