

# Morning Prayer

## Thursday



ST MATTHEW & ST WILFRID  
**SUNDERLAND**  
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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

### A Song of God's Blessing

God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
That your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad,  
for you will judge the peoples righteously  
and govern the nations upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase,  
and God, our own God, will bless us.  
God will bless us,  
and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

*Psalm 67*

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

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## The Psalmody

### Psalm 81

Sing merrily to God our strength, shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

**Take up the song and sound the timbrel, the tuneful lyre with the harp.**

Blow the trumpet at the new moon, as at the full moon, upon our solemn feast day.

**For this is a statute for Israel, a law of the God of Jacob,**

The charge he laid on the people of Joseph when they came out of the land of Egypt.

**I heard a voice I did not know, that said: 'I eased their shoulder from the burden; their hands were set free from bearing the load.**

'You called upon me in trouble and I delivered you; I answered you from the secret place of thunder and proved you at the waters of Meribah.

**'Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: O Israel, if you would but listen to me!**

'There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not worship a foreign god.

**'I am the Lord your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt; open your mouth wide and I shall fill it.'**

But my people would not hear my voice and Israel would not obey me.

**So I sent them away in the stubbornness of their hearts, and let them walk after their own counsels.**

O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

**Then I should soon put down their enemies and turn my hand against their adversaries.**

Those who hate the Lord would be humbled before him, and their punishment would last for ever.

**But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat and with honey from the rock would I satisfy them.**

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

## Scripture Reading

### Deuteronomy 17:7,8,10,11

If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbour. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbour in your land."

## **Canticle**

### **The Benedictus**

**You promised, O God, to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us.**

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, who has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets God promised of old

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

**To show mercy to our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

**To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*Luke 1.68-79*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**You promised, O God, to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray to God, who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For all who are affected by coronavirus, through illness or isolation or anxiety,  
that they may find relief and recovery:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping national policies,  
that they may make wise decisions:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For doctors, nurses and medical researchers,  
that through their skill and insights many will be restored to health:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill and the dying,  
that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us,

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,  
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father,

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

## **The Collect**

O God, the author of peace  
and lover of concord,  
to know you is eternal life,  
to serve you is perfect freedom.  
Defend us your servants  
from all assaults of our enemies;  
that we, surely trusting in your defence,  
may not fear the power of any adversaries;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us  
**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.**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,  
and keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen**

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

*These prayers are drawn from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England all of which are  
copyright © The Archbishops Council*

*New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of  
the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved*