

Morning Prayer  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Christ the King  
(We will be following this in our own homes at 10am)

*Please read these words out loud, or in your heart.*

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,  
according to your judgement give us life.

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

*Silence may be 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 Word of God

Old Testament Reading - Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24

*<sup>11</sup> Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup> I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice... <sup>20</sup> Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup> I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup> I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.*

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading - Matthew 25.31-46

*Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>31</sup>"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?"<sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."<sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."<sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?"<sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'*

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust.  
You are the God of my salvation,  
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.  
In you I hope all the day long.  
O my God, in you I trust.  
Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.  
To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust.

*from Psalm 25*

## from the Te Deum

- 1 You are the King of glory, O Christ.  
You are the everlasting Son of the Father.
- 2 When you took it upon yourself to deliver us,  
you did not abhor the virgin's womb.
- 3 When you had overcome the sharpness of death,  
you opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
- 4 You sit at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that you will come to be our judge.
- 5 We therefore pray you, help your servants,  
whom you have redeemed with your precious blood.
- 6 Make them to be numbered with your saints  
in glory everlasting.

Glory be 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.

## Prayers

*Please offer your own prayers following these suggestions, if you wish, with the response below:*

- ¶ *for the day and its tasks*
- ¶ *for the world and its needs*
- ¶ *for the Church and her life*

Lord, in your mercy  
hear our prayer.

*Silence may be kept.*

Keep us, good Lord,  
Under the shadow of your mercy  
In this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
And lift up all who are brought low;  
That we may rejoice in your comfort  
Knowing that nothing can separate us from your love,  
In Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

## Collect

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.  
Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us  
"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."  
*The Lord's Prayer is said*

**The Conclusion**

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.  
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*This Order of Service will be updated and sent out weekly. Please join us again  
next week.*