

Dial the number: **0330 088 1927**  
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## Sunday Evening Service

*Welcome and introduction to the service*

O God, make speed to save us.

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Lead your people to freedom, O God.

**All: And banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God, so may your Spirit come down upon us to set us free to sing your praise for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

*A short time of quiet reflection*

**All: Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen**

*The minister declares God's 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.**

**All: For forgiving us, Lord Jesus: Thank you.**  
For giving us a fresh start, Lord Jesus: Thank you.  
For helping us next time things are hard, Lord Jesus:  
Thank you.

### *The Song of Mary*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**All: From this day all generations will call me blessed; the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him, from generation to generation.

**All: He has shown strength with his arm and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.

**All: He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, to remember his promise of mercy,

**All: The promise made to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children for ever.**

**All: 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 Collect – the special prayer for today.*

*Old Testament Reading*

*Nunc Dimittis*

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:

**All: your word has been fulfilled.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation

**All: which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

A light to reveal you to the nations

**All: and the glory of your people Israel.**

**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.**

*New Testament Reading*

*Talk*

*We declare our faith in God*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

*Prayers, concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

**All: In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy,  
help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love,  
to serve your purpose, and to praise your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### *The Blessing*

May the Lord bless us and watch over us, may the Lord  
make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us,  
may the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace;  
and may the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the  
Holy Spirit be upon us and remain with us and those we  
love, now and always.

### **All: Amen**

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

**All: a light no darkness can quench.**

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:

**All: and the day is almost over.**

The darkness is not dark to you:

**All: the night is as bright as the day.**

Let your light scatter the darkness:

**All: and fill your church with your glory. Amen.**