

A prayer for our Christian communities

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.

We are not people who protect our own safety:

we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.

We are not people of greed:

we are people of generosity.

We are your people God,

giving and loving,

wherever we are,

whatever it costs

For as long as it takes

wherever you call us.

RECOMMENDED READINGS

Psalms

27 'The Lord is my light and my salvation'

46 'Be still and know that I am God'

91 'He shall cover you with his wings'

139 'You have searched me out and known me'

Isaiah 43

'Do not fear for I am with you.'

John 14

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.'

ONLINE RESOURCES

Calendar and Lectionary for

Common Worship

<http://almanac.oremus.org/>

Daily Prayer Resources

Prayer throughout the day both online and via Android and iOS apps

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayerand-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Prayer Apps

<https://innerroom.app/>

Online streaming of services

Under 'digital resources', bottom of the page

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidancechurches>

Online Bibles / Bible Study

<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

<https://www.bibleinoneyear.org/>

<https://www.youversion.com/>

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explorethe-bible/>

<https://bibleproject.com/>

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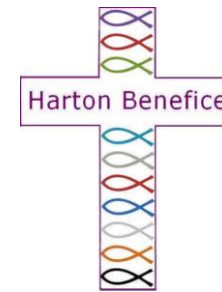
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Benefice of Harton



A Service of Prayer for when we cannot meet at church.

If you are reading this online, there are a number of links for prayer resources and church services at the end of this booklet.

Know that when you join in prayer you join with others; we are the church of Christ.

If you are able, perhaps you could light a candle as a reminder of Christ with you.

For those who regularly donate to their church, please prayerfully consider making arrangements with the churchwarden to continue your giving.

Morning Prayer

O Lord open our lips

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Your faithful servants bless you.

They make known the glory of your kingdom.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, ruler and judge of all, to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of this age that is passing away may the light of your presence which the saints enjoy surround our steps as we journey on.

May we reflect your glory this day and so be ready to see your face in the heavenly city where night shall be no more.

Blessed by God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God forever.

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

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 forever.

Amen.

Ministry of the Word

(Either choose a favourite or look up the readings for the day online if you are able)

Psalm (27, 46, 91, 139)

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 forever. Amen.

Gospel.

Read the Gospel of the day once or twice and then spend some time reflecting on it and talking about what struck you.

Prayers for the world and each other.

For our world at large; things in the news.
For our community.
For our friends and family.
For ourselves.

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.**

Blessing

**May the Lord bless us
and keep us,
May the Lord make
his face to shine upon us
and be gracious to us;
May the Lord turn his face
toward us and give us peace.**

**Let us go to the day ahead
in the light and peace of
Christ. Thanks be to God.**

END

PRAYERS ABOUT THE OUTBREAK

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.

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those in need as if we were caring for you. In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to care for the sick, and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.
Amen.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For those who are worried/social cohesion

Loving Jesus, you are compassionate to those in need and heal the sick in body and mind. Look kindly on those who are fearful at this time. Help us all to put away all thoughts and actions that separate us from you and from one another. Give us grace to live our lives confident in your promise that you are with us always. Amen.

For those who are ill

Merciful God, we entrust to your unfailing and tender care, those who are ill or in pain, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold us safe.

Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For hospital staff and medical researchers

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure. Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From one who is ill or isolated

God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for when you can't get to church

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today, as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep me in your care. Amen.

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

From St Patrick's Breastplate

Be with us, Lord, in all our prayers, and direct our way toward the attainment of salvation, that among the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may always be defended by your gracious help, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O gracious and holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.
St Benedict