

A Service of the Word

For All Saints



Call to worship

Jesus Christ has made us a kingdom of priests
to serve his God and Father.

Glory and kingship be his for ever and ever.

Opening prayer

Almighty God,
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us new hearts and constant wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Prayers of Confession

Christ calls us to share the heavenly banquet of his love
with all the saints in earth and heaven.
Knowing our unworthiness and sin,
let us ask from him both mercy and forgiveness.

**God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and
said and done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen**

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect

All **Amen.**

The Bible Reading

I John 2.26-3.6

And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming.

If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin. No one who lives in him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen him or known him.

This is the word of the Lord.

- 1 Love divine all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every longing heart.

- 2 Come, almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee would we be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

- 3 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless may we be;
let us see our whole salvation
perfectly secured by thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place;
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)
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The Sermon

Creed

Let us declare our faith in God:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

**For all the saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blest:
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness still their one true light:
Alleluia, alleluia!**

**3 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, alleluia!**

William W How (1823-1897)
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Prayers of Intercession

United in the company of all the faithful
and looking for the coming of the kingdom,
let us offer our prayers to God,
the source of all life and holiness.

Merciful Lord,
strengthen all Christian people by your Holy Spirit,
that we may live as a royal priesthood and a holy nation
to the praise of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Bless *N* our bishop and all ministers of your Church,
that by faithful proclamation of your word
we may be built on the foundation of the apostles and
prophets into a holy temple in the Lord.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Empower us by the gift of your holy and life-giving Spirit,
that we may be transformed into the likeness of Christ
from glory to glory.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Give to the world and its peoples
the peace that comes from above,
that they may find Christ's way of freedom and life.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Hold in your embrace all who witness to your love in the
service of the poor and needy;

all who minister to the sick and dying;
and all who bring light to those in darkness.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Remember in your mercy all those gone before us
who have been well-pleasing to you from eternity;
preserve in your faith your servants on earth,
guide us to your kingdom
and grant us your peace at all times.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Hasten the day when many will come
from east and west, from north and south,
and sit at table in your kingdom.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks
for the whole company of your saints in glory,
with whom in fellowship we join our prayers and praises;
by your grace may we, like them, be made perfect in your
love.

All **Blessing and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour and power,
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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 Blessing

God, who has prepared for us a city with eternal foundations,
give you grace to share the inheritance of the saints in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.