



Worship at Home in Lent



We believe that wherever we worship God ‘in Spirit and in truth’, He will be present.

To worship in your household, choose a specific place - perhaps somewhere you can light a candle, and where you and those joining you can sit together undisturbed. Choose a time when you can be unhurried. Then read slowly through the service sheet, praying the prayers as you go. If you are with others, then one of you can take the lead and say the words in normal type, with the other(s) reading the lines in bold, or you could take it in turns to lead. If it is just you, then read it all yourself. Some people find it helps to read the prayers and responses aloud, even on their own.

The Collect, the Bible readings and the Reflection are provided separately. Short intercessions are included, but you may wish to use your own prayers, or some may be provided by your church.

At any point, you could pause to look at the family activities or do them later instead – whatever age you are! Hymns and songs are not included in the written version of this service.

Find what works for you and, as you worship, pray and learn at home, may God bless you and those others doing the same.

Preparation

From Bethlehem to Nazareth, from Jordan to Jericho,
from Bethany to Jerusalem, from then to now,

All: Come, Lord Jesus

To heal the sick, to mend the broken hearted,
to comfort the disturbed, to disturb the comfortable,

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

To carry the cross, to lead the way,
to shoulder the sin of the world
and take it away,

All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Today, to this place, to us,
All: Come, Lord Jesus.

Words of confession, forgiveness and need

Introduction:

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

Cf Psalm 51.17

Words of confession:

All: God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Words of forgiveness:

May the Father of all mercies
cleanse us from our sins,
and restore us in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Words of need

Lord Jesus Christ, you have walked where we walk,
help us in our weakness,

All: blessed be your name.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have been tempted as we have,
help us in our danger,

All: blessed be your name.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have suffered for us,
help us when we reach our wit's end

All: blessed be your name.

Lord Jesus Christ, you were deserted and betrayed,
be with us when all others have gone,

All: blessed be your name.

Lord Jesus Christ

**All: companion Christ, friend and saviour,
we need you, help us to follow.**

Amen

The Collect

The Collect for the day (provided separately) is said.

Bible Reading(s) and Response

At the end...

For the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Before the Gospel reading...

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end...

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We listen to, or read, a reflection provided separately.

Affirmation of Faith.

Let us affirm our faith by saying The Apostles' Creed together.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercessions

Let us pray to God in faith,
knowing that he understands what is best for us.

Heavenly Father, increase our faith,
that everyone in your Church may be more ready to trust you
and move forward with you wherever you lead us.

(pause)

You speak what is true:
and the truth can set us free.

Heavenly Father, give to all leaders and their advisers
the courage to be honest, the will to be just,
the greatness to be humble and the openness to learn.

(pause)

You speak what is true:
and the truth can set us free.

Heavenly Father, we pray for those we love -
those we see each day and those we miss;
help us to cherish one another
as we live the loving way of your commands.

(pause)

You speak what is true:
and the truth can set us free.

Heavenly Father, give comfort and healing to those who are ill,
peace to the anxious, and reassurance to the afraid:
may we know your love for us
through both the good and the agonising times.

(pause)

You speak what is true:
and the truth can set us free.

Heavenly Father, give us thankful hearts
to bless your name in sadness and in joy,
knowing that you are always there beside us.
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

All: 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.

Closing words

Jesus, Lord of time,
hold us in your eternity.

Jesus, image of God,
travel with us the life of faith.

Jesus, friend of sinners,
heal the brokenness of our world.

Jesus, Lord of tomorrow,
draw us into your future. Amen.

We are scattered, but one Body;
apart from one another, but one Church.
We wait in hope to be reunited around God's table.
May we be at peace
to love and serve the Lord
in any way we can. **Amen.**