

Worship at Home for Ordinary Time

To worship at home on your own or with others in your household, choose a specific place - perhaps somewhere you can light a candle, and where you can sit 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 will need to take the lead and say the words in normal type with the other(s) reading the parts in bold. If it is just you, then read the bold phrases marked, but you might need to adapt them a little. Some people find it helps to read the prayers and responses aloud, even on their own. You'll find the readings, collect and reflection on a separate sheet that should have been circulated alongside this order of service. You might like to listen to the audio version of this service that you can find on www.lordsbridge.org whilst you follow the print version.

Gathering to worship God

Greeting

The Lord be with you, All: and also with you.

Opening Words

All: Faithful one, whose word is life:
 come with saving power
 to free our praise,
 inspire our prayer
 and shape our lives
 for the kingdom of your Son,
 Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

Words of confession and forgiveness and praise

Jesus saw the city and wept over it, because it did not recognize the time of God's coming. We confess our part in the self-centredness, blindness and sin of the life of our city/community.

19.41

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cf Luke

In a dark and disfigured world we have not held out the light of life: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world we have failed to share our bread: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world we have kept the love of God to ourselves: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive us our sins, open our eyes to God's truth, strengthen us to do God's will and give us the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Words of praise

Sovereign Lord, creator of heaven and earth and sea, and everything in them, we are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

You shake us and fill us with your Spirit, you stretch out your hand to heal, to do signs and wonders through the name of Jesus. We are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

Jesus is the author of life, handed over to be killed for us. You raised him from the dead, and made us whole in him. We are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

Not many of us are wise by human standards, not many are influential, not many of noble birth. We are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

You choose the foolish to shame the wise, you choose the weak to shame the strong, the lowly and despised, so no one may boast before you. We are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

Your strength is made perfect in our weakness. Your grace is enough for us. We are your people, we give you thanks.

All: We praise your holy name.

The Church's Prayer for this Sunday (The Collect)

The Collect for the day (found with the readings and reflection)

<u>Listening and responding to the Word of God</u>

(Bible readings and reflection found on a separate sheet)

Affirming our faith

All: 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.

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Prayers for others and ourselves

Gracious God, rejoicing in your blessing, Trusting in your loving care for all, We bring you our prayers for the world.

We pray first for the created world.
For those who rebuild where things have been destroyed,
For those who fight hunger, poverty and disease,
For those who have power to bring change for the better,
And to renew hope.

Through our lives and by our prayers

All: Your kingdom come

We pray for our country.

For those in leadership who frame our laws and shape our common life,
Who keep the peace and administer justice,
For those who teach and those who heal,

And all who serve the community

Through our lives and by our prayers

All: Your kingdom come

We pray for people in need, those for whom life is a bitter struggle, Those whose lives are clouded by death or loss, By pain or disability, by discourage or fear, by fear or rejection.

Through our lives and by our prayers

All: Your kingdom come

We pray for those in the circle of friendship and love around us, Children and parents, sisters and brothers, Those whose lives are clouded by death or loss, friends and neighbours, And those especially in our thoughts today.

Through our lives and by our prayers

All: Your kingdom come

We pray for the church in its stand with the poor,
In its love for the outcast and the ashamed
It its service to the sick and neglected,
In its proclamation of the gospel in this land and this place.

Through our lives and by our prayers

All: Your kingdom come

Your kingdom come in joy and generosity in the small and the large, the ordinary and the special,

and to you be the glory, now and always,

All: Amen.

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.

Going out to serve God

Closing words

In gratitude, for this time, we give ourselves again to you.

All: Take us out to live as changed people because we have been touched by the living Lord and cannot remain the same.

Ask much from us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us.

All: So, Lord, may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.

Amen

Final Blessing

And may the blessing of God Almighty, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Be with you and remain with you always, Amen

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ. Amen

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