



Though many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members one to another.

Romans 12:4



While we cannot gather physically, let us not stop 'meeting together' in prayer, in praise and in our daily concern for one another and the issues of our world. This booklet contains images, prayers and readings which may be helpful as you draw close to God during this time of dispersed worship.

The Church of England website is just one of many online resources for those able to access them. <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

The BBC is also planning additional services and programmes; especially as we approach Easter.

More locally, here at St Andrew's we are looking into ways of 'virtual gathering' through phone conference calls as well as our Facebook page.

Although there are no services of public worship, the church remains open 9am – 5pm (later one evening) for those wishing to use that sacred space.

Rev'd Chris and Rev'd Jennie hope to be in church at various times.

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

## Affirmation of Faith

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

We believe in God the Son,  
Who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again;  
and lives in our hearts through faith.

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.



Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin. let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. Hebrews 4: 14-16

This is the wonder of Jesus; he has brought God to us, and brings us to God. He brought the heavenly to earth; he takes the earthly to heaven.

**Pause to reflect** on the passage and upon the God who truly understands our fears, our anxieties and our concerns.

**Pause to draw closer** to God and be renewed in his love. Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord. We come to you in sorrow for our sins, and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength and not by the power of your resurrection. We have lived by the light of our own eyes as faithfulness and unbelieving. We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven. Lord, hear us and help us. Renew us in your gracious and abounding love. Amen.

**Pause to affirm your faith** (words on inside cover)

**Pause to pray:** God does not seek 'churchy' phrases or words. Simply allow your thoughts to become spoken prayers to God.

Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)



Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

**Pause to reflect** Consider how even the tiniest speck of light changes the dynamic of the darkness and can reset the balance from despair to hope.

**Pause to draw closer to God** and be renewed in his love

Lord of light, enter our past,  
Dispel the works of darkness,  
Destroy the deeds of evil  
Defeat the thoughts of blackness.  
Come, Lord of light, and forgive;  
Come, Lord of love and set us free;  
Come, draw us closer to you.

**Pause to affirm your faith** (words on inside cover)

**Pause to pray:**

Give thanks for all the tiny chinks of light in this current crisis  
– stories of compassion and kindness.

Pray for the physical, social and economic impact of COVID 19  
For those whose operations have now been put back; routine for NHS  
but quite possibly life-changing for the individuals concerned.

Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)



Listen to the LORD who created you, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.

Isaiah 43:1-2

Be still and know that I am God

Psalms 46:10

### **Pause to reflect**

The wonder of Jesus is that God is with us throughout all the ups and downs of life.

And he calls us, his disciples to be with one another. How might we be so, even with the constraints of social distancing.

### **Pause to draw closer**

Jesus Christ, risen master and triumphant Lord, we come to you in sorrow for our sins and confess to you our weakness and unbelief.

We have lived by our own strength and not by the power of your resurrection.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes as faithless and not believing

We have lived for this world alone, and doubted our home in heaven.

Lord hear us and help us. Amen.

### **Pause to affirm your faith (words on inside cover)**

### **Pause to pray**

Pray that all who face the changing, choppy seas of life might find safe harbour in the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)

*Some reflective Liturgy for Lent  
(you could phone a friend and read through the liturgy together)*



Since early days Christians have observed with great devotion the time of our Lord's passion and resurrection and prepared for this by a season of penitence and fasting. By carefully keeping these days, Christians take to heart the call to repentance and the assurance of forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel, and so grow in faith and in devotion to our Lord.

**Holy God,  
holy and strong,  
holy and immortal,  
have mercy upon us**

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
*All Amen.*

**Readings:** You may like to read through one of the Psalms or follow one of the Gospel narratives of Holy Week.

**Pause to reflect**

The Liturgy of Penitence  
God the Father, **have mercy on us.**  
God the Son, **have mercy on us.**  
God the Holy Spirit, **have mercy on us.**  
Trinity of love, **have mercy on us.**

**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, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. **Lord, have mercy.**

We confess to you, Lord all our past unfaithfulness: the pride, hypocrisy and impatience of our lives.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves. **Lord, have mercy.**

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts and our dishonesty in daily life and work. **Lord, have mercy.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to commend the faith that is in us. **Lord, have mercy.**

Accept our repentance, Lord for the wrongs we have done, for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty.

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts towards our neighbours and for our prejudice and contempt towards those who differ from us.

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

**Accept our repentance, Lord.**

Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us.

**Favourably hear us, for your mercy is great.**

Accomplish in us the work of your salvation,  
**that we may show your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son our Lord,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

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.

*Pause to pray - Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)*  
*Closing prayer*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have called us to share in God's story of hope. And so, we offer ourselves to it's telling. Breathe your life through ours, that the story may continue on, in us and through us, until the world is remade. Amen.

*(Prayer copyright ©Pat Bennett 2010 Wild Goose Publications)*

Image by Oscar Malinowski



<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Colossians 3: 1- 17

Read also Ephesians 6: 10-18

### **Pause to reflect**

#### **Pause to draw closer**

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways; re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find, in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard beside the Syrian sea the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word rise up and follow thee.

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives Confess the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire thy coolness and thy balm;

let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire, O still, small voice of calm!

### **Pause to affirm your faith (words on inside cover)**

**Pause to pray** - *concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)*

Be still, be open, choose to be re-clothed in Christ, through his



God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him..<sup>18</sup> There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

### Seeing the ripples in COVID 19

There is a lot of fear ... but a lot more loving  
There is a lot of doubt ..but a lot more willingness to be open  
There is a lot of isolation ...but a lot more clean air and awareness of our linked-up existence.  
There is a lot of change ... but a lot more creative opportunities.  
There is a lot of panic ... but a lot more time to reflect on how we live and the priorities we set.  
There is a lot of suffering and even death ... but a lot more caring

Lord, as we pause to consider the ripples,  
May the greatest ripple of all – be the ripple of ..  
Your abundant, perfect love.

### **Pause to draw closer**

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride  
Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence  
Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.  
Lord have mercy.  
Forgive us and renew us in your love.

### **Pause to affirm your faith (words on inside cover)**

### **Pause to pray**

Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)



I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Psalm 139

**Pause to reflect upon the God** of creation and wonder whose presence and ways lie beyond the realms of our understanding and yet, God gives minutest attention to detail, has come to us personally in Jesus, and by his Spirit, dwells right alongside – right within us.

Take time to notice, to ponder the creative nature and the love of God.

**Pause to draw closer**

God our Father,

We are thoughtless and do not care enough for the world you have made.

We have wilfully and carelessly misused the gifts of your creation.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest, but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.

We store up goods for ourselves but ignore the cry of the hungry.

We have not loved you with all our heart nor our neighbour as ourselves.

Lord be merciful; forgive us our sin. Amen.

**Pause to affirm your faith (words on inside cover)**

**Pause to pray:** praying especially for issues of climate change and responsible living.

Concluding with the Lord's prayer (inside cover)



## Psalm 23

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.

### **Chorus**

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.

### **Chorus**

And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.

### **Chorus**

Stuart Townend

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