

A Service of the Word, Morning and Evening Prayer, Night Prayer

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A Service of the Word

Introduction

A Service of the Word is unusual for an authorized Church of England service. It consists almost entirely of notes and directions and allows for considerable local variation and choice within a common structure. It is important that those who prepare for and take part in A Service of the Word should have a clear understanding of the nature of worship and of how the component parts of this service work together. Leading people in worship is leading people into mystery, into the unknown and yet the familiar. This spiritual activity is much more than getting the words or the sections in the right order. The primary object in the careful planning and leading of the service is the spiritual direction which enables the whole congregation to come into the presence of God to give him glory. Choices must be made responsibly by leaders of this service or by groups planning worship with them, whether the service is an occasional one, or a regular one which may use a service card. The notes and the text of A Service of the Word should be read together as they interpret one another.

The Liturgy of the Word

At the heart of the service is the Liturgy of the Word. This must not be so lightly treated as to appear insignificant compared with other parts of the service. The readings from Holy Scripture are central to this part and, together with the season, may determine the theme of the rest of the worship. At certain times of the year, as Note 5 says, the readings come from an authorized lectionary, so that the whole Church is together proclaiming the major events in the Christian story. Telling that story and expounding it in the 'sermon' can be done in many different and adventurous ways. Some are suggested in Notes 5 and 7, but there are many others. The word 'sermon' is used in the service, and explained in the note, precisely because it would be too limiting to use words like 'address', 'talk', 'instruction', or 'meditation'.

The items in the Liturgy of the Word may come in any order and more than once. So the sermon may be in parts and there may be more than one psalm or song, and of course hymns may be inserted as well. But on most occasions it will be appropriate for this part of the service to have a Creed or Affirmation of Faith as its climax.

Preparation

With the Liturgy of the Word becoming clear it will be easier to see how the Preparation for it, and the response to it in the Prayers, fit in. People need to know when the service has started (Note 1). What happens at the beginning can create the atmosphere for worship and set the tone and mood for what follows. The gathering of the congregation and the call to worship are to be marked by a liturgical greeting between minister and people. Leaders should have worked out exactly where this comes among the singing, Scripture sentence, introduction (perhaps to the theme) and opening prayer. All these should draw the members of the congregation together and focus their attention on almighty God.

This part of the service will usually include the Prayers of Penitence, though these may come later if, for instance, the theme of the Liturgy of the Word appropriately leads to penitence. Authorized Prayers of Penitence include all those confessions and absolutions in *The Book of Common Prayer* and in services in *Common Worship*, together with several other seasonal and thematic forms, mostly for occasional use, which are set out on pages 122–137. The climax of this part of the service is either the Collect or, if that is included in the Prayers, one of the items of praise, a hymn or the Gloria. The Collect does not have to be that of the day; it may be a thematic one based on the readings (in which case it should come immediately before the readings), or be used to sum up the Prayers.

Prayers

Part of the response to the Word is the Creed, but the response should be developed in the Prayers which follow. There are many different options for this part of the service. These range from a series of Collect-type prayers to congregational involvement in prayer groups, visual and processional prayers, with responsive forms and a number of people sharing the leading of intercessions in between. But, whatever the form, it is essential that the Prayers also include thanksgiving. A section of thanksgiving, which may include the spoken word, music and hymns, may be the proper climax to this part of the service.

Conclusion

Many different words have been used for the Conclusion, each of which has something to contribute to our understanding of how the service ends: dismissal, farewell, goodbye, departure, valediction, commission, blessing, ending, going out. What is essential, as with the way the service starts, is that it should have a clear liturgical ending: options are listed in Note 9.

Once the service is planned, leaders will want to check through to ensure that there is the right balance between the elements of word, prayer and praise, and between congregational activity and congregational passivity. Does the music come in the right places? Is there sufficient silence (Note 4)? This is something leaders can be afraid of, or fail to introduce properly. And is there a clear overall direction to the service: is it achieving the purpose of bringing the congregation together to give glory to God

¶ A Service of the Word

Preparation

The minister welcomes the people with the **Greeting**.

Authorized Prayers of Penitence may be used here or in the **Prayers**.

The Venite, Kyries, Gloria, a hymn, song, or a set of responses may be used.

The **Collect** is said either here or in the **Prayers**.

The Liturgy of the Word

This includes

- ¶ **readings (or a reading) from Holy Scripture**
- ¶ a **psalm**, or, if occasion demands, a scriptural song
- ¶ a **sermon**
- ¶ an **authorized Creed**, or, if occasion demands, an **authorized Affirmation of Faith**.

Prayers

These include

- ¶ **intercessions and thanksgivings**
- ¶ **the Lord's Prayer**

Conclusion

The service concludes with a **blessing, dismissal** or other **liturgical ending**.

¶ A Service of the Word with a Celebration of Holy Communion

This rite requires careful preparation by the president and other participants, and is not normally to be used as the regular Sunday or weekday service.

Sections marked with an asterisk must follow an authorized text.*

Preparation

The people and the priest:

- ¶ greet each other in the Lord's name
- ¶ confess their sins and are assured of God's forgiveness*
- ¶ keep silence and pray a Collect*

The Liturgy of the Word

The people and the priest:

- ¶ proclaim and respond to the word of God

Prayers

The people and the priest:

- ¶ pray for the Church and the world

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The people and the priest:

- ¶ exchange the Peace
- ¶ prepare the table
- ¶ pray the Eucharistic Prayer*
- ¶ break the bread
- ¶ receive Holy Communion

The Dismissal

The people and the priest:

- ¶ depart with God's blessing.

¶ Notes

In this form of service, the material is described as ‘authorized’ or ‘suitable’, which expressions shall have the following meanings:

- ¶ ‘authorized’ means approved by the General Synod in accordance with the provisions of Canon B 2.
- ¶ ‘suitable’ means a form used at the discretion of the minister conducting the form of service on any occasion, but such that the material so used shall be neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England in any essential matter.

This service is authorized as an alternative to Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. It provides a structure for Sunday services, for daily prayer and for services of an occasional nature.

1 Greeting

The service should have a clear beginning. The liturgical greeting may follow some introductory singing, or a hymn or a sentence of Scripture, and may be followed by a brief introduction or an opening prayer.

2 Prayers of Penitence

Only authorized Prayers of Penitence should be used. They may be omitted except at the Principal Service on Sundays and Principal Holy Days. Authorized forms of Confession and Absolution may be found in *The Book of Common Prayer*, in the services in *Common Worship* and on pages 122–137. The minister may introduce the Confession with suitable words.

3 Hymns, Canticles, Acclamations and the Peace

Points are indicated for some of these, but if occasion requires they may occur elsewhere.

4 Silence

Periods of silence may be kept at different points of the service. It may be particularly appropriate at the beginning of the service, after the readings and the sermon, and during the prayers.

5 Readings

There should preferably be at least two readings from the Bible, but it is recognized that if occasion demands there may be only one reading. It may be dramatized, sung or read responsively. The readings are taken from an authorized lectionary during the period from the Third Sunday of Advent to the Baptism of Christ, and from Palm Sunday to Trinity Sunday. When A Service of the Word is combined with Holy Communion on Sundays and Principal Holy Days, the readings of the day are normally used.

6 Psalms

The service should normally include a psalm or psalms. These might be said or sung in the traditional way, but it is also possible to use a metrical version, a responsive form or a paraphrase such as can be found in many current hymn books. The psalm may occasionally be replaced by a song or canticle the words of which are taken directly from Scripture: a ‘scriptural song’.

7 Sermon

The term ‘sermon’ includes less formal exposition, the use of drama, interviews, discussion, audio-visuals and the insertion of hymns or other sections of the service between parts of the sermon. The sermon may come after one of the readings, or before or after the prayers, and may be omitted except on Sundays and Principal Holy Days.

8 Sermon and Creed

The sermon, and a Creed or authorized Affirmation of Faith may be omitted except at the principal service on Sundays and Principal Holy Days.

9 Ending

The service should have a clear ending. This takes one or more of the following forms: the Peace, the Grace or a suitable ascription or blessing. If a responsive conclusion is used, it comes last.

10 A Service of the Word with a Celebration of Holy Communion

An order for this is provided (see page 25). The notes to the Order for the Celebration of Holy Communion (pages 158–159 and 330–335) apply equally to this service. In particular the Note on Ministries (pages 158–159) specifies that the president must be an episcopally ordained priest, but indicates that where necessary a deacon or lay person may preside over the Preparation and the Liturgy of the Word, including the Prayers. The order provided is not prescriptive.

Morning and Evening Prayer on Sunday

¶ Introduction

From earliest times, Christians gathered at regular hours during each day and night to respond to God's word with praise on behalf of all creation and with intercession for the salvation of the world. By the fourth century, if not earlier, morning and evening had emerged as the pre-eminent hours for the offering of this sacrifice of praise. They have remained so ever since, especially on Sundays when the Church commemorates both the first day of creation and the day of Christ's resurrection. These orders of service are examples of forms which comply with the provisions of *A Service of the Word* and are intended to help Christians of our own day take their part in this privilege and duty which belongs to all God's priestly people. They may be celebrated in a variety of different ways, for example, as:

- ¶ a simple form of prayer at the very beginning or end of the day;
- ¶ the Gathering and Liturgy of the Word for another service which is to follow immediately;
- ¶ the principal service of the day.

To meet diverse needs such as these, they are very flexible in arrangement. The central core, however, consists of the Liturgy of the Word interwoven with canticles to supply the response of praise, followed by intercessory prayer in one form or another. A variety of alternative endings is provided in the form of thanksgivings for different aspects of the Church's life. Whenever possible, the services should include some singing, especially of the Gospel canticle, which is the climax of the morning or evening praise for the work of God in Christ. If desired, metrical paraphrases may be substituted for any of the biblical canticles, and other hymns and songs may be added at appropriate points.

Provision for weekdays is published separately.

For Notes, see pages 57–58.

An Order for Morning Prayer on Sunday

Preparation

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you

All **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

All **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

(or)

O Lord, open our lips

All **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Give us the joy of your saving help

All **and sustain us with your life-giving Spirit.**

The minister may say

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Prayers of Penitence are used when Morning Prayer is the principal service and may be used on other occasions (see Note 3).

The following or another authorized confession and absolution is used

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All **Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

All **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

All **for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All **and in our song will we praise our God.**

One or more of the following may conclude the Preparation or they may be omitted.

This prayer of thanksgiving may be said

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
creator and redeemer of all;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world
and in your great love fashioned us in your image.
Now, through the deep waters of death,
you have brought your people to new birth
by raising your Son to life in triumph.
May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts
as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

An opening canticle or a hymn may be said or sung.

This opening prayer may be said

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

Silence is kept.

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 for ever.

All **Amen.**

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said or sung.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Old Testament Canticle

*If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here,
or both may be read after the Old Testament canticle.*

A suitable canticle is said or sung (see Note 5 on page 57).

Scripture Reading

*One or more readings appointed for the day are read.
The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.*

The reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

*A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form,
may follow*

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

All **And Christ shall give you light.**

You have died and your life is hid with Christ in God.

All **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.**

Set your minds on things that are above,
not on things that are on the earth.

All **And Christ shall give you light.**

When Christ our life appears you will appear with him in glory.

All **Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead,
and Christ shall give you light.**

Gospel Canticle

The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah) is said or sung

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.68-79*

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

*A sermon is preached when Morning Prayer is the principal service
(see Note 3).*

*Morning Prayer may conclude with one of the Thanksgivings
(pages 46–56).*

The Creed

*When Morning Prayer is the principal service, the Apostles' Creed
or an authorized Affirmation of Faith is said. It may be omitted on other
occasions (see Note 3).*

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.**

Prayers

Intercessions are offered.

The Collect is said.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
as our Saviour has 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.**

(or)

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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 Conclusion

The service ends with one of the following, or another blessing or ending.

The Blessing

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

[Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.]**

(or)

The Grace

All **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

(or)

The Peace

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

All **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace, God's seal on our prayers.

An Order for Evening Prayer on Sunday

Preparation

All The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you
and also with you.

All The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Let us rejoice and sing God's praise for ever.

(or)

All O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Lead your people to freedom, O God.
All **And banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.**

The minister may say

We have come together in the name of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

Prayers of Penitence are used when Evening Prayer is the principal service and may be used on other occasions (see Note 3).

The following or another authorized confession and absolution is used

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ,
confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All **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.
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.**

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

One or more of the following may conclude the Preparation or they may be omitted.

This prayer of thanksgiving may be said

Blessed are you, sovereign God,
our light and our salvation;
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You led your people to freedom
by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.
May we who walk in the light of your presence
acclaim your Christ, rising victorious,
as he banishes all darkness from our hearts and minds.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All Blessed be God for ever.

An opening hymn may be sung.

*Verses from Psalm 141 or from Psalm 104 may be said
(see pages 784–785).*

This opening prayer may be said

The day is almost over, and the evening has come;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your Spirit come down upon us
to set us free to sing your praise
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said or sung.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

New Testament Canticle

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the New Testament canticle.

A suitable canticle is said or sung (see Note 5 on page 57).

Scripture Reading

One or more readings appointed for the day are read.

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.

The reader may say

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

*A suitable song or chant, or a responsory in this or another form,
may follow*

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.

**All The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

The light shines in the darkness
and the darkness has not overcome it.

All The Lord is the strength of my life.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

**All The Lord is my light and my salvation;
the Lord is the strength of my life.**

Gospel Cantic

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary) is said or sung

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.
- 2 From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.
- 3 He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.
- 4 He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,
- 5 Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
and lifting up the lowly.
- 6 He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.
- 7 He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
to remember his promise of mercy,
- 8 The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

*A sermon is preached when Evening Prayer is the principal service
(see Note 3).*

*Evening Prayer may conclude with one of the Thanksgivings
(pages 46–56).*

The Creed

*When Evening Prayer is the principal service, the Apostles' Creed
or an authorized Affirmation of Faith is said. It may be omitted on other
occasions (see Note 3).*

**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.**

Prayers

Intercessions are offered.

The Collect is said.

The Lord's Prayer is said

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
as our Saviour has 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.**

(or)

Gathering our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

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 Conclusion

The service ends with one of the following, or another blessing or ending.

The Blessing

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil,
and keep us in eternal life.

All **Amen.**

[Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.]**

(or)

The Grace

All **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.**

(or)

The Peace

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

All **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

These words may be added

Let us offer one another a sign of peace, God's seal on our prayers.

Thanksgivings for Use at Morning and Evening Prayer on Sunday

Thanksgiving for the Word

All Your word is a lantern to our feet
and a light upon our path.

This prayer of thanksgiving may be said

Blessed are you, Lord our God.
How sweet are your words to the taste,
sweeter than honey to the mouth.
How precious are your commands for our life,
more than the finest gold in our hands.
How marvellous is your will for the world,
unending is your love for the nations.
Our voices shall sing of your promises
and our lips declare your praise
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

After a suitable introduction, this or another authorized confession and absolution may be used

All **O King enthroned on high,
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw *us* to himself,
and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Testimonies may be shared. The Apostles' Creed or an authorized Affirmation of Faith is said at a principal service and may be said on other occasions.

Intercessions are offered.

This or another Collect is said

Almighty God,
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light upon our paths,
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve all people
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

The service ends either with the Peace or with the following proclamation to the world

All The Word of life which was from the beginning
we proclaim to you.

The darkness is passing away
and the true light is already shining;

All **the Word of life which was from the beginning.**

That which we heard, which we saw with our eyes,
and touched with our hands,

All **we proclaim to you.**

For our fellowship is with the Father,
and with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **The Word of life, which was from the beginning,
we proclaim to you.**

Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

¶ Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

If possible, this Thanksgiving should be celebrated at the font.

I saw water flowing from the threshold of the temple.

All **Wherever the river flows
everything will spring to life. Alleluia.**

On the banks of the river grow trees bearing every kind of fruit.

All **Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail.**

Their fruit will serve for food,
their leaves for the healing of the nations.

All **For the river of the water of life
flows from the throne of God and of the Lamb.**

This prayer of thanksgiving is said and water may be poured into the font.

God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life.
With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All **Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, sovereign God of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.

You are our light and our salvation.

From the deep waters of death
you have raised your Son to life in triumph.

Grant that all who have been born anew by water and the Spirit,
may daily be renewed in your image,
walk by the light of faith,

and serve you in newness of life;
through your anointed Son, Jesus Christ,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
we lift our voices of praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Apostles' Creed or an authorized Affirmation of Faith is said.

Intercessions are offered. These should include prayer for those who are preparing for baptism and for those recently baptized.

This or another Collect is said

Almighty God,
in our baptism you have consecrated us
to be temples of your Holy Spirit.
May we, whom you have counted worthy,
nurture this gift of your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith
and worship you with upright lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The water may be sprinkled over the people or they may be invited to use it to sign themselves with the cross.

The service ends either with the Peace or with the following blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water
welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;
and may the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

¶ Thanksgiving for the Healing Ministry of the Church

See Note 8 on page 58.

Bless the Lord, O my soul;
All and forget not all his benefits.

God forgives all our iniquities;
All and heals all our diseases.

God redeems our life from the pit;
All and crowns us with love and mercy.

James 5.13-16a or another suitable reading such as Mark 1.29-34 or Acts 3.1-10 follows.

This prayer of thanksgiving may be said

Blessed are you, sovereign God, gentle and merciful,
creator of heaven and earth.

Your word brought light out of darkness.

In Jesus Christ you proclaim good news to the poor,
liberty to captives, sight to the blind
and freedom for the oppressed.

Daily your Spirit renews the face of the earth,
bringing life and health, wholeness and peace.

In the renewal of our lives

you make known your heavenly glory.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

All Blessed be God for ever.

*The Apostles' Creed or an authorized Affirmation of Faith is said
at a principal service and may be said on other occasions.*

*Intercessions for those in need and those who care for them may be
offered in this or another form*

Holy God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
we make our prayer to you, saying,
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Grant to [N and] all who seek you
the assurance of your presence, your power and your peace.
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Grant your healing grace to [N and] all who are sick
that they may be made whole in body, mind and spirit.
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Grant to all who minister to the suffering
wisdom and skill, sympathy and patience.
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful
and lift up all who are brought low.
Lord, hear us.

All Lord, graciously hear us.

Hear us, Lord of life.

All Heal us, and make us whole.

This or another Collect is said

Almighty God,
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles
the wonder of your saving presence:
renew [N, N, ... and] all your people
with your heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your mighty power,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer is said.

The Ministry of Healing may take place here using these or other suitable prayers

Be with us, Spirit of God;

All **nothing can separate us from your love.**

Breathe on us, breath of God;

All **fill us with your saving power.**

Speak in us, wisdom of God;

All **bring strength, healing and peace.**

The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Silence is kept.

If anointing is to be administered, a priest may use this prayer over the oil, if it has not previously been blessed

Lord, holy Father, giver of health and salvation,
as your apostles anointed those who were sick and healed them,
so continue the ministry of healing in your Church.
Sanctify this oil, that those who are anointed with it
may be freed from suffering and distress,
find inward peace, and know the joy of your salvation,
through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The laying on of hands may be administered using these or other suitable words

In the name of God and trusting in his might alone,
receive Christ's healing touch to make you whole.

May Christ bring you wholeness of body, mind and spirit,
deliver you from every evil,
and give you his peace.

All **Amen.**

If anointing is administered by an authorized minister, these or other suitable words may be used

N, I anoint you in the name of God who gives you life.
Receive Christ's forgiveness, his healing and his love.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
grant you the riches of his grace,
his wholeness and his peace.

All **Amen.**

This prayer concludes the Ministry of Healing

The almighty Lord,
who is a strong tower for all who put their trust in him,
whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth obey,
be now and evermore your defence.

May you believe and trust that the only name under heaven
given for health and salvation
is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

This responsory may be used

O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.

All **O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.**

I sought the Lord and he answered me;
he delivered me from all my fears.

All **O magnify the Lord with me.**

In my weakness I cried to the Lord;
he heard me and saved me from my troubles.

All **Let us exalt his name together.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

All **O magnify the Lord with me;
let us exalt his name together.**

cf Psalm 34

The service ends with the Grace or a blessing or the Peace

Peace to you from God our Father who hears our cry.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ whose death brings healing.
Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life and strength.
The peace of the Lord be always with you

All **and also with you.**

¶ Thanksgiving for the Mission of the Church

A suitable Gospel reading may be introduced by this acclamation

All We proclaim not ourselves, but Christ Jesus as Lord
and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.

All For the God who said, Let light shine out of darkness,
has caused the light to shine within us:

All to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.

All Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel reading

All This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

This prayer of thanksgiving may be said

Blessed are you,
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
for you have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.
You chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world
and destined us for adoption as your children.
In Christ we have the forgiveness of sins,
an inheritance in your kingdom, the seal of your Spirit,
and in him we live for the praise of your glory
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

*The commissioning of those called and prepared to exercise particular
ministries may take place here.*

*The Apostles' Creed or an authorized Affirmation of Faith and this
affirmation of commitment are said at a principal service and may
be said on other occasions.*

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil,
and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you proclaim by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people,
loving your neighbour as yourself?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society,
by prayer for the world and its leaders,
by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

All **With the help of God, I will.**

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith,
that you may be rooted and grounded in love
and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Amen.**

*Intercessions for those engaged in ministry and other prayers
for the mission of the Church may be offered.*

This Collect is said

Almighty God,
who called your Church to witness
that in Christ you were reconciling the world to yourself:
help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may be reconciled to you
through him who died for us and rose again
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer is said.

The service ends either with the Peace or with the following blessing

Let us bless the living God:
he was born of the Virgin Mary,

- All* **revealed in his glory,**
worshipped by angels,
All **proclaimed among the nations,**
believed in throughout the world,
All **exalted to the highest heavens.**

Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation,
All **now and for ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Notes to Orders for Morning and Evening Prayer on Sunday

In the services and the Notes square brackets indicate parts of the service which may be omitted.

1 Hymns and Songs

Hymns and songs may be sung at appropriate points in the service, and metrical paraphrases may be used in place of the biblical canticles.

2 Sentences of Scripture

Alternative sentences of Scripture appropriate to the day or the season may be substituted for those in these orders.

3 Principal Services and Principal Holy Days

An authorized confession and absolution, and the Apostles' Creed or another Creed or authorized Affirmation of Faith, and a sermon, must be included in Morning or Evening Prayer when it is the principal service on a Sunday or Principal Holy Day, but may be omitted at other times.

4 Opening Canticle at Morning Prayer

The following are suitable for use as the opening canticle at Morning Prayer:
Benedicite, A Song of Creation (pages 778–779), especially in Ordinary Time;
Jubilate, A Song of Joy (page 781), especially in festal seasons;
The Easter Anthems (page 782), especially during the Easter season;
Venite, A Song of Triumph (page 780), especially during Advent and Lent.

5 Old and New Testament Canticles

The following are suitable as Old Testament canticles at Morning Prayer and New Testament canticles at Evening Prayer, especially in the seasons indicated:

	Morning	Evening
<i>Advent</i>	A Song of the Wilderness (page 786)	A Song of the Spirit (page 792)
<i>Christmas</i>	A Song of the Messiah (page 787)	A Song of Redemption (page 793)
<i>Epiphany</i>	A Song of the New Jerusalem (page 788)	A Song of Praise (page 794)
<i>Lent</i>	A Song of Humility (page 789)	A Song of Christ the Servant (page 794)
<i>Easter</i>	The Song of Moses and Miriam (page 790)	A Song of Faith (page 795)
<i>Pentecost</i>	A Song of Ezekiel (page 791)	A Song of God's Children (page 796)
<i>Ordinary Time</i>	A Song of David (page 791)	A Song of the Lamb (page 796)

6 Opening Hymn and Canticle at Evening Prayer

Phos hilaron (A Song of the Light) is a suitable opening hymn (see page 783). Verses from either Psalm 104 or Psalm 141 are suitable opening canticles (see pages 784–785).

7 Te Deum

The canticle Te Deum, A Song of the Church (page 802), may be used at Morning or Evening Prayer immediately before the Conclusion.

8 Thanksgivings

In Morning or Evening Prayer, one of the Thanksgivings may follow the sermon or, where a sermon is included in the Thanksgiving, the Gospel canticle. The confession and absolution at the beginning of Morning and Evening Prayer should be omitted where penitence is included in the Thanksgiving for the Word. If the Thanksgiving for the Healing Ministry of the Church is to include anointing, the minister must be authorized for this ministry as required by Canon B 37.

9 Intercessions

These should normally be broadly based, expressing a concern for the whole of God's world and the ministry of the whole Church. Nevertheless, where occasion demands, they may be focused on more particular and local needs. Where another service follows immediately, they may be brief.

10 Morning and Evening Collects

If it is desired to use the Morning and Evening Collects (page 101), they should not be added after the Collect of the Day, but should be used before the Blessing or other Ending.

11 Commemoration of the Resurrection

The Order for Morning Prayer may be arranged as a commemoration of the resurrection (which is especially appropriate during the Easter season) by the use of the following:

[Opening Canticle: Benedicite, A Song of Creation]

Psalmody: Psalm 118.14-29

[First Reading: Genesis 1.1-5; Exodus 14.21-31; I Corinthians 15.1-8; or Colossians 3.1-4]

Old Testament Canticle: The Song of Moses and Miriam

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28.1-10; Mark 16.1-8; Mark 16.9-20;

Luke 24.1-9; John 20.1-10; John 20.11-18; or John 21.1-14

New Testament Canticle: The Easter Anthems

Morning and Evening Prayer from *The Book of Common Prayer* with permitted variations (see page 80)

¶ Opening Sentences

Seasonal Sentences

General

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him. *Psalm 96.9*

God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. *John 4.24*

Advent

The night is far spent, and the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. *Romans 13.12*

Christmas

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people: for unto you is born in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2.10,11*

Epiphany

From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name is great among the nations; and in every place incense is offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name is great among the nations, saith the Lord. *Malachi 1.11*

Lent

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. *Psalm 51.17*

Passiontide

Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow. *Lamentations 1.12*

Good Friday

God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. *Romans 5.8*

Easter Eve

Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him; and he shall give thee thy heart's desire. *Psalm 37.7,4*

Easter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to his great mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. *1 Peter 1.3*

Ascension Day

Seeing that we have a great high priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. *Hebrews 4.14,16*

Pentecost

The love of God hath been shed abroad in our hearts through the Holy Spirit which was given unto us. *Romans 5.5*

Trinity

God is love; and he that abideth in love abideth in God and God in him. *1 John 4.16*

Harvest

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof. *Psalm 24.1*

All Saints

Seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. *Hebrews 12.1, 2*

Saints' Days

The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance; the memory of the just is blessed. *Psalm 112.6; Proverbs 10.7*

Time of Trouble

God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble. *Psalm 46.1*

Penitential Sentences

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. *Luke 15.18, 19*

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us: but if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1.8, 9*

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him: neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us. *Daniel 9.9, 10*

Enter not into judgement with thy servant, O Lord; for in thy sight shall no man living be justified. *Psalm 143.2*

When the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. *Ezekiel 18.27*

I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. *Psalm 51.3*

Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. *Psalm 51.9*

O Lord, correct me, but with judgement; not in thine anger, lest thou bring me to nothing. *Jeremiah 10.24; Psalm 6.1*

Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. *Matthew 3.2*

Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. *Joel 2.13*

Morning Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer

¶ Introduction

The minister may use a seasonal sentence before using one or more of the penitential sentences (see pages 59–61).

The minister introduces the service

Dearly beloved [brethren],
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge
and confess our manifold sins and wickedness;

[and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before
the face of almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and
obedient heart;

to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same
by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge
our sins before God;

yet ought we most chiefly so to do,
when we assemble and meet together
to render thanks for the great benefits that we have
received at his hands,

to set forth his most worthy praise,
to hear his most holy word,
and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.]

Wherefore I pray and beseech you,
as many as are here present,
to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying [after me]:

(or)

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God
and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our
Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make
confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves,
that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew
forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all
men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence
with us now.

All **Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.**

A priest says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who desireth not the death of a sinner,
but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live;
and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers
to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent,
the absolution and remission of their sins:
he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent
and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel.
Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance,
and his Holy Spirit,
that those things may please him which we do at this present;
and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy;
so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

or other ministers may say

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,
and serve thee with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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.**

¶ *Morning Prayer*

*The introduction to the service (pages 62–64) is used on Sundays,
and may be used on any occasion.*

These responses are used

O Lord, open thou our lips
All **and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.
All **The Lord's name be praised.**

Venite, exultemus Domino

- 1 O come, let us sing unto the Lord :
let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving :
and shew ourselves glad in him with psalms.
- 3 For the Lord is a great God :
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are all the corners of the earth :
and the strength of the hills is his also.
- 5 The sea is his, and he made it :
and his hands prepared the dry land.
- 6 O come, let us worship, and fall down :
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
- 7 For he is the Lord our God :
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

- [8 Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts :
as in the provocation,
and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness;
- 9 When your fathers tempted me :
proved me, and saw my works.
- 10 Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said :
It is a people that do err in their hearts,
for they have not known my ways.
- 11 Unto whom I sware in my wrath :
that they should not enter into my rest.]

Psalm 95

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Psalmody

At the end of each psalm these words are said or sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Te Deum Laudamus

Either the Te Deum Laudamus (as follows) or Benedicite, omnia opera (page 807) is said or sung.

We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.
To thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the powers therein.
To thee cherubin and seraphin continually do cry,
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory.
The glorious company of the apostles praise thee.
The goodly fellowship of the prophets praise thee.
The noble army of martyrs praise thee.
The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee:
the Father of an infinite majesty;
thine honourable, true and only Son;
also the Holy Ghost the Comforter.

Thou art the King of glory, O Christ.
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,
thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.
We believe that thou shalt come to be our judge.
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.
Make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting.

O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.
Govern them and lift them up for ever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
and we worship thy name, ever world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be confounded.

New Testament Reading

Either the Benedictus (as follows) or Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100, page 810) is said or sung.

- 1 Blessed be the Lord God of Israel :
for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
- 2 And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us :
in the house of his servant David;
- 3 As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets :
which have been since the world began;
- 4 That we should be saved from our enemies :
and from the hands of all that hate us;
- 5 To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers :
and to remember his holy covenant;
- 6 To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham :
that he would give us,
- 7 That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies :
might serve him without fear,
- 8 In holiness and righteousness before him :
all the days of our life.
- 9 And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
- 10 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people :
for the remission of their sins;
- 11 Through the tender mercy of our God :
whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
- 12 To give light to them that sit in darkness,
and in the shadow of death :
and to guide our feet into the way of peace. *Luke 1.68-79*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

**All I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

All **And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen.

All **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

All **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

All **And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All **Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

All **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Three Collects are said.

The Collect of the Day

The Collect for Peace

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord,
in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life,
whose service is perfect freedom;
defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies;
that we, surely trusting in thy defence,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father,
almighty and everlasting God,
who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day;
defend us in the same with thy mighty power;
and grant that this day we fall into no sin,
neither run into any kind of danger,
but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance,
to do always that is righteous in thy sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The order for the end of the service may include:

¶ *hymns or anthems*

¶ *a sermon*

¶ *further prayers (which may include prayers from pages 107–109)*

This prayer may be used to conclude the service

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

Evening Prayer from The Book of Common Prayer

¶ Introduction

The minister may use a seasonal sentence before using one or more of the penitential sentences (see pages 59–61).

The minister introduces the service

Dearly beloved [brethren],
the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge
and confess our manifold sins and wickedness;

[and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before
the face of almighty God our heavenly Father;
but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent and
obedient heart;

to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same
by his infinite goodness and mercy.

And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge
our sins before God;

yet ought we most chiefly so to do,
when we assemble and meet together
to render thanks for the great benefits that we have
received at his hands,

to set forth his most worthy praise,
to hear his most holy word,
and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary,
as well for the body as the soul.]

Wherefore I pray and beseech you,
as many as are here present,
to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice,
unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying [after me]:

(or)

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of almighty God and
of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our
Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving; to make
confession of our sins; to pray, as well for others as for ourselves,
that we may know more truly the greatness of God's love and shew
forth in our lives the fruits of his grace; and to ask on behalf of all
men such things as their well-being doth require.

Wherefore let us kneel in silence, and remember God's presence
with us now.

All **Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things
which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto mankind
in Christ Jesu our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.**

A priest says

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who desireth not the death of a sinner,
but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live;
and hath given power, and commandment, to his ministers
to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent,
the absolution and remission of their sins:
he pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent
and unfeignedly believe his holy gospel.
Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance,
and his Holy Spirit,
that those things may please him which we do at this present;
and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy;
so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

or other ministers may say

Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord,
to thy faithful people pardon and peace,
that they may be cleansed from all their sins,
and serve thee with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that 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.**

¶ *Evening Prayer*

*The introduction to the service (pages 72–74) is used on Sundays,
and may be used on any occasion.*

These responses are used

O Lord, open thou our lips
All **and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.
All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.
All **The Lord's name be praised.**

Psalmody

At the end of each psalm these words are said or sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Magnificat

Either the Magnificat (as follows) or Cantate Domino (Psalm 98, page 812) is said or sung.

- 1 My soul doth magnify the Lord :
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
- 2 For he hath regarded :
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
- 3 For behold, from henceforth :
all generations shall call me blessed.
- 4 For he that is mighty hath magnified me :
and holy is his Name.
- 5 And his mercy is on them that fear him :
throughout all generations.
- 6 He hath shewed strength with his arm :
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
- 7 He hath put down the mighty from their seat :
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
- 8 He hath filled the hungry with good things :
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
- 9 He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel :
as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Luke 1.46-55

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Nunc dimittis

Either the Nunc dimittis (as follows) or Deus misereatur (Psalm 67, page 813) is said or sung.

- 1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.
 - 2 For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;
 - 3 Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;
 - 4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel. *Luke 2.29-32*
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

**All I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers

The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

All **And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen.

All **And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

All **And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

All **And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

All **Because there is none other that fighteth for us,
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

All **And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

Three Collects are said.

The Collect of the Day

The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels,
and all just works do proceed;
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that, by thee,
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The order for the end of the service may include:

¶ *hymns or anthems*

¶ *a sermon*

¶ *further prayers (which may include prayers from pages 107–109)*

This prayer may be used to conclude the service

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

Schedule of Permitted Variations to the *Book of Common Prayer Orders for Morning and Evening Prayer where these occur in Common Worship*

- 1 All or part of the material before 'O Lord, open thou our lips' may be omitted, at least on weekdays.
- 2 The minister may use a seasonal sentence before using one of the penitential sentences with which the service begins.
- 3 The minister may use an abbreviated form of the Bidding, 'Dearly beloved brethren ...', or the form on pages 63 and 73 may be used.
- 4 When the officiating minister is not a priest, an authorized prayer for absolution in the 'us' form or else the Collect for Trinity 21 in *The Book of Common Prayer* is said by the minister in place of the prayer for absolution printed in *The Book of Common Prayer*.
- 5 The whole of the Gloria Patri, together with the words 'Praise ye the Lord' that follow, may be said or sung by the entire congregation, in which case the final response, 'The Lord's name be praised', may be omitted.
- 6 At Morning Prayer, verses 8 to 11 of the Venite may be omitted except in Lent. The Easter Anthems (page 805) may be used in place of the Venite throughout Eastertide.
- 7 Other prayers of intercession and thanksgiving may be used in addition to or in place of the five prayers printed at the end of the Order in *The Book of Common Prayer*.
- 8 Hymns may be sung at suitable points in the service, silence may be kept after the readings, a sermon may be preached and the service may end with a blessing.

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline)

Note

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (*completorium*). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise. If there is an address, or business to be done, it should come first. If the service is in church, those present depart in silence; if at home, they go quietly to bed.

For further Notes, see page 99.

Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

All **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All **who made heaven and earth.**

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

All **Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.**

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All **Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.
Alleluia.**

The following or another suitable hymn may be sung

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.

The Word of God

Psalmody

One or more of the following psalms may be used.

Psalm 4

- 1 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness; ♦
you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
- 2 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory; ♦
how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood?
- 3 But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness; ♦
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not; ♦
commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness ♦
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There are many that say, 'Who will show us any good?' ♦
Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

- 7 You have put gladness in my heart, ♦
more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.
- 8 In peace I will lie down and sleep, ♦
for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety.

Psalm 91

- 1 Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
- 2 Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦
my God, in whom I put my trust.'
- 3 For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦
and from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.
- 5 You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦
nor of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.
- 7 Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦
yet it shall not come near you.
- 8 Your eyes have only to behold ♦
to see the reward of the wicked.
- 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦
and the Most High your stronghold,
- 10 There shall no evil happen to you, ♦
neither shall any plague come near your tent.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦
to keep you in all your ways.
- 12 They shall bear you in their hands, ♦
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

- 13 You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot.
- 14 Because they have set their love upon me,
therefore will I deliver them; ♦
I will lift them up, because they know my name.
- 15 They will call upon me and I will answer them; ♦
I am with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and bring them to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy them ♦
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 134

- 1 Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, ♦
you that by night stand in the house of the Lord.
- 2 Lift up your hands towards the sanctuary ♦
and bless the Lord.
- 3 The Lord who made heaven and earth ♦
give you blessing out of Zion.

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said or sung

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

Scripture Reading

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name;
leave us not, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14.9*

(or)

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling
round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him,
strong in the faith. *1 Peter 5.8, 9*

(or)

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will
be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not
need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their
light, and they will reign for ever and ever. *Revelation 22.4, 5*

The following responsory may be said

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

All I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Or, in Easter

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

All Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

All Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

All Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

Gospel Canticle

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

**All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ♦
your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation ♦
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations ♦
and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

**All Save us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep may rest in peace.**

Prayers

Intercessions and thanksgivings may be offered here.

The Collect

Silence may be kept.

Visit this place, O Lord, we pray,
and drive far from it the snares of the enemy;
may your holy angels dwell with us and guard us in peace,
and may your blessing be always upon us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer may be said.

The Conclusion

In peace we will lie down and sleep;

All for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

All for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

As the night watch looks for the morning,

All so do we look for you, O Christ.

[Come with the dawning of the day

All and make yourself known in the breaking of the bread.]

The Lord bless us and watch over us;

the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;

the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.

All Amen.

An Order for Night Prayer (Compline) in Traditional Language

Note

The ancient office of Compline derives its name from a Latin word meaning 'completion' (*completorium*). It is above all a service of quietness and reflection before rest at the end of the day. It is most effective when the ending is indeed an ending, without additions, conversation or noise. If there is an address, or business to be done, it should come first. If the service is in church, those present depart in silence; if at home, they go quietly to bed.

For further Notes, see page 99.

Preparation

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.

All **Amen.**

[Brethren,] be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist, steadfast in the faith. *I Peter 5.8, 9*

But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord

All **who hath made heaven and earth.**

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

All **We confess to God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed,
through our own grievous fault.
Wherefore we pray God to have mercy upon us.**

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us,
forgive us all our sins and deliver us from all evil,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and bring us to life everlasting;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

A priest may say

May the almighty and merciful Lord
grant unto you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and comfort of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

One or more of the following psalms may be used

Psalm 4

- 1 Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness :
thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble;
have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.
- 2 O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour :
and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after leasing?
- 3 Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself
the man that is godly :
when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.
- 4 Stand in awe, and sin not :
commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.
- 5 Offer the sacrifice of righteousness :
and put your trust in the Lord.
- 6 There be many that say :
Who will shew us any good?
- 7 Lord, lift thou up :
the light of thy countenance upon us.
- 8 Thou hast put gladness in my heart :
since the time that their corn, and wine, and oil increased.
- 9 I will lay me down in peace, and take my rest :
for it is thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

O God, make speed to save us.

All **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;

All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.

All **The Lord's name be praised.**

The following or another suitable hymn may be sung

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world we pray,
That with thy wonted favour thou
Wouldst be our guard and keeper now.

From all ill dreams defend our eyes,
From nightly fears and fantasies;
Tread underfoot our ghostly foe,
That no pollution we may know.

O Father, that we ask be done,
Through Jesus Christ, thine only Son;
Who, with the Holy Ghost and thee,
Doth live and reign eternally.

Psalm 31.1-6

- 1 In thee, O Lord, have I put my trust :
let me never be put to confusion, deliver me in thy righteousness.
- 2 Bow down thine ear to me :
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 And be thou my strong rock, and house of defence :
that thou mayest save me.
- 4 For thou art my strong rock, and my castle :
be thou also my guide, and lead me for thy name's sake.
- 5 Draw me out of the net, that they have laid privily for me :
for thou art my strength.
- 6 Into thy hands I commend my spirit :
for thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

Psalm 91

- 1 Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High :
shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.
- 2 I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my hope, and my stronghold :
my God, in him will I trust.
- 3 For he shall deliver thee from the snare of the hunter :
and from the noisome pestilence.
- 4 He shall defend thee under his wings,
and thou shalt be safe under his feathers :
his faithfulness and truth shall be thy shield and buckler.
- 5 Thou shalt not be afraid for any terror by night :
nor for the arrow that flieth by day;
- 6 For the pestilence that walketh in darkness :
nor for the sickness that destroyeth in the noonday.
- 7 A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand :
but it shall not come nigh thee.
- 8 Yea, with thine eyes shalt thou behold :
and see the reward of the ungodly.

- 9 For thou, Lord, art my hope :
thou hast set thine house of defence very high.
- 10 There shall no evil happen unto thee :
neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.
- 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee :
to keep thee in all thy ways.
- 12 They shall bear thee in their hands :
that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Thou shalt go upon the lion and adder :
the young lion and the dragon shalt thou tread under thy feet.
- 14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him :
I will set him up, because he hath known my name.
- 15 He shall call upon me, and I will hear him :
yea, I am with him in trouble;
I will deliver him, and bring him to honour.
- 16 With long life will I satisfy him :
and shew him my salvation.

Psalm 134

- 1 Behold now, praise the Lord :
all ye servants of the Lord;
- 2 Ye that by night stand in the house of the Lord :
even in the courts of the house of our God.
- 3 Lift up your hands in the sanctuary :
and praise the Lord.
- 4 The Lord that made heaven and earth :
give thee blessing out of Sion.

At the end of the psalmody, the following is said or sung

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

Scripture Reading

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read

Thou, O Lord, art in the midst of us, and we are called by thy name;
leave us not, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14.9*

(or)

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give
you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and
lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is
easy, and my burden is light. *Matthew 11.28-30*

(or)

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord
Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the
everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his
will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; through
Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.
Hebrews 13.20,21

All Thanks be to God.

The following responsory may be said

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

All Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

All I commend my spirit.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

All Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Or, in Easter

Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

All Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

For thou hast redeemed me, O Lord, thou God of truth.

All Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

All Into thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Keep me as the apple of an eye.

All Hide me under the shadow of thy wings.

Gospel Cantic

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

**All Preserve us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

1 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace :
according to thy word.

2 For mine eyes have seen :
thy salvation;

3 Which thou hast prepared :
before the face of all people;

4 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles :
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son :
and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be :
world without end. Amen.

**All Preserve us, O Lord, while waking,
and guard us while sleeping,
that awake we may watch with Christ,
and asleep we may rest in peace.**

Prayers

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil. Amen.**

Blessed art thou, Lord God of our fathers:

All **to be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

Let us bless the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost:

All **let us praise him and magnify him for ever.**

Blessed art thou, O Lord, in the firmament of heaven:

All **to be praised and glorified above all for ever.**

The almighty and most merciful Lord guard us
and give us his blessing.

All **Amen.**

[Wilt thou not turn again and quicken us;

All **that thy people may rejoice in thee?**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;

All **and grant us thy salvation.**

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this night without sin;

All **O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.**

O Lord, hear our prayer;

All **and let our cry come unto thee.]**

Let us pray.

One or more of the following Collects is said

Visit, we beseech thee, O Lord, this place,
and drive from it all the snares of the enemy;
let thy holy angels dwell herein to preserve us in peace;
and may thy blessing be upon us evermore;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us

from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, son of the living God,
who at this evening hour didst rest in the sepulchre,
and didst thereby sanctify the grave
to be a bed of hope to thy people:
make us so to abound in sorrow for our sins,
which were the cause of thy passion,
that when our bodies lie in the dust,
our souls may live with thee;
who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost,
one God, world without end.

All **Amen.**

Look down, O Lord, from thy heavenly throne,
illuminate the darkness of this night with thy celestial brightness,
and from the sons of light banish the deeds of darkness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Be present, O merciful God,
and protect us through the silent hours of this night,
so that we who are wearied
by the changes and chances of this fleeting world,
may repose upon thy eternal changelessness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Conclusion

We will lay us down in peace and take our rest.

All **For it is thou, Lord, only that makest us dwell in safety.**

Abide with us, O Lord,

All **for it is toward evening and the day is far spent.**

As the watchmen look for the morning,

All **so do we look for thee, O Christ.**

[Come with the dawning of the day

All **and make thyself known in the breaking of bread.]**

The Lord be with you

All **and with thy spirit.**

Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost,
bless us and preserve us.

All **Amen.**

Notes to Night Prayer (Compline)

1 Psalms

If it is desired to use an unchanging pattern of psalmody for Night Prayer, the psalms printed in the text are used. However, verses from other psalms may be used instead, particularly if Night Prayer is said daily – Saturday: as set; Sunday: Psalm 104; Monday: Psalm 86; Tuesday: Psalm 143; Wednesday: Psalm 31; Thursday: Psalm 16; Friday: Psalm 139.

2 Thanksgiving

Night Prayer may begin with the Prayer of Thanksgiving from Evening Prayer (page 40).

3 Gospel Reading

On suitable occasions, particularly Saturday night and before other festivals, the Gospel for the following day may be read before the Office.

4 Preparation

When the confession is being used, it may be replaced by another act of penitence. However, all that precedes 'O God, make speed to save us' may be omitted; this is particularly appropriate if Holy Communion has been celebrated in the evening.

5 Alleluia

The Alleluias included in the Easter form of the Responsory are for use from Easter Day until the Day of Pentecost, not at other times. The Alleluia following the opening versicles and responses is always used, except in Lent.

6 Blessing

The response in square brackets [] is normally used only if Holy Communion is to be celebrated the following morning.

7 Seasons

The hymn, the Scripture reading, the refrain to the Gospel Canticle, the Collect and the blessing may change seasonally and on Festivals.

Prayers for Various Occasions

A Morning Collect

Almighty and everlasting God,
we thank you that you have brought us safely
to the beginning of this day.
Keep us from falling into sin
or running into danger,
order us in all our doings
and guide us to do always
what is righteous in your sight;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

An Evening Collect

Lighten our darkness,
Lord, we pray,
and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils and dangers of this night,
for the love of your only Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Sovereign

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless our Sovereign Lady, *Queen Elizabeth*,
and all who are in authority under her;
that they may order all things
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,
to the honour of your name,
and the good of your Church and people;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Royal Family

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
bless, we pray, *Elizabeth the Queen Mother,*
Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales,
and all the Royal Family.

Endue them with your Holy Spirit;
enrich them with your heavenly grace;
prosper them with all happiness;
and bring them to your everlasting kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for Those who Govern

Eternal God,
fount and source of all authority and wisdom,
hear our prayer for those who govern.
Give to *Elizabeth our Queen* grace
as the symbol of loyalty and unity
for all our different peoples;
give to the parliaments in these islands,
and especially to our own Government,
wisdom and skill, imagination and energy;
give to the members of the European institutions
vision, understanding and integrity,
that all may live in peace and happiness, truth and prosperity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for Bishops and other Pastors

Almighty and everlasting God,
the only worker of great marvels,
send down upon our bishops and other pastors
and all congregations committed to their care
the spirit of your saving grace;
and that they may truly please you,
pour upon them the continual dew of your blessing.
Grant this, O Lord,
for the honour of our advocate and mediator, Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer of Dedication

All **Almighty God,**
we thank you for the gift of your holy word.
May it be a lantern to our feet,
a light to our paths,
and a strength to our lives.
Take us and use us
to love and serve
in the power of the Holy Spirit
and in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Additional Collects

Where a Collect ends 'through Jesus Christ...', the following longer Trinitarian ending may be added

who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

This longer ending is to be preferred at Holy Communion.

The Collect for the Fifth Sunday after Trinity (pages 410 and 482) may be used as a Collect for the ministry of all Christian people.

The Collect for the Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity (pages 416 and 488) may be used as a Collect for mission and evangelism.

Further Collects for special occasions are published in the President's edition of Common Worship.

For the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

God, who from of old
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour.

*For the Guidance of the Holy Spirit
at a Synod or Parochial Church Council meeting*

Almighty God,
you have given your Holy Spirit to the Church
to lead us into all truth:
bless with the Spirit's grace and presence
the members of this *synod/PCC/etc.*;
keep *us/them* steadfast in faith and united in love,
that *we/they* may manifest your glory
and prepare the way of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*For Those who Work on Land or Sea
(Rogation)*

Almighty God,
whose will it is that the earth and the sea
should bear fruit in due season:
bless the labours of those who work on land and sea,
grant us a good harvest
and the grace always to rejoice in your fatherly care;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

*For Those Engaged in Commerce and Industry
(Rogation)*

Almighty God and Father,
you have so ordered our life
that we are dependent on one another:
prosper those engaged in commerce and industry
and direct their minds and hands
that they may rightly use your gifts in the service of others;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For the Unity of the Church (1)

Heavenly Father,
you have called us in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ
to continue his work of reconciliation
and reveal you to the world:
forgive us the sins which tear us apart;
give us the courage to overcome our fears
and to seek that unity which is your gift and your will;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For the Unity of the Church (2)

Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your apostles,
'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you':
look not on our sins but on the faith of your Church
and grant it the peace and unity of your kingdom;
where you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

For the Peace of the World

Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For Social Justice and Responsibility

Eternal God,
in whose perfect realm
no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness,
and no strength known but the strength of love:
so guide and inspire the work of those who seek your kingdom
that all your people may find their security
in that love which casts out fear
and in the fellowship revealed to us
in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

For Vocations

Almighty God,
you have entrusted to your Church
a share in the ministry of your Son our great high priest:
inspire by your Holy Spirit the hearts of many
to offer themselves for the ministry of your Church,
that strengthened by his power,
they may work for the increase of your kingdom
and set forward the eternal praise of your name;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

A Text of the Lord's Prayer

This text may be used on suitable occasions

As we look for the coming of the kingdom, 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Prayers from *The Book of Common Prayer*

A Prayer for the Queen's Majesty

O Lord our heavenly Father,
high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes,
who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth;
most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour

to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lady, *Queen Elizabeth*;
and so replenish her with the grace of thy Holy Spirit,
that she may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way:
endue her plenteously with heavenly gifts;
grant her in health and wealth long to live;
strengthen her that she may vanquish and overcome all her enemies;
and finally, after this life, she may attain everlasting joy and felicity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

A Collect for the Queen

Almighty and everlasting God,
we are taught by thy holy Word,
that the hearts of kings are in thy rule and governance,
and that thou dost dispose and turn them
as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom:
we humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of
Elizabeth thy Servant, our *Queen* and Governor,
that, in all her thoughts, words, and works,
she may ever seek thy honour and glory,
and study to preserve thy people committed to her charge,
in wealth, peace, and godliness:
grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

A Prayer for the Royal Family

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,
we humbly beseech thee to bless *Elizabeth the Queen Mother,*
Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales,
and all the Royal Family.
Endue them with thy Holy Spirit;
enrich them with thy heavenly grace;
prosper them with all happiness;
and bring them to thine everlasting kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A Prayer for the Clergy and People

Almighty and everlasting God,
who alone workest great marvels,
send down upon our bishops and curates,
and all congregations committed to their charge,
the healthful spirit of thy grace;
and that they may truly please thee,
pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing.
Grant this, O Lord,
for the honour of our advocate and mediator, Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

A Prayer of St Chrysostom

Almighty God,
who hast given us grace at this time
with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee;
and dost promise
that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name
thou wilt grant their requests:
fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants,
as may be most expedient for them;
granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting.

All Amen.

A General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men;
* [*particularly to those who desire now to offer up their praises
and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.*]
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful,
and that we shew forth thy praise, not only with our lips,
but in our lives;
by giving up ourselves to thy service,
and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness
all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost
be all honour and glory, world without end.

All Amen.

* *This to be said when any that have been prayed for
desire to return praise.*

¶ Endings and Blessings

1

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.** *cf 2 Corinthians 13.13*

2

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or conceive, by the power which is at work among us, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all ages.

All **Amen.**

3

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

All

Let us bless the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

4

The Lord bless *you* and watch over *you*,
the Lord make his face shine upon *you*
and be gracious to *you*,
the Lord look kindly on *you*
and give *you* peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among *you* and remain with *you* always.

All **Amen.**

5

The love of the Lord Jesus
draw *you* to himself,
the power of the Lord Jesus
strengthen *you* in his service,
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill *your* hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among *you* and remain with *you* always.

All **Amen.**

The Litany

Sections I and VII must always be used, but a selection of appropriate suffrages may be made from Sections II, III, IV, V and VI.

I

Let us pray.

God the Father,

All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Son,

All **have mercy upon us.**

God the Holy Spirit,

All **have mercy upon us.**

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,

All **have mercy upon us.**

II

From all evil and mischief;
from pride, vanity and hypocrisy;
from envy, hatred and malice;
and from all evil intent,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

From sloth, worldliness and love of money;
from hardness of heart
and contempt for your word and your laws,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

From sins of body and mind;
from the deceits of the world, the flesh and the devil,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

From famine and disaster;
from violence, murder and dying unprepared,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

In all times of sorrow;
in all times of joy;
in the hour of death,
and at the day of judgement,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

III

By the mystery of your holy incarnation;
by your birth, childhood and obedience;
by your baptism, fasting and temptation,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

By your ministry in word and work;
by your mighty acts of power;
and by your preaching of the kingdom,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

By your agony and trial;
by your cross and passion;
and by your precious death and burial,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

By your mighty resurrection;
by your glorious ascension;
and by your sending of the Holy Spirit,

All **good Lord, deliver us.**

IV

Hear our prayers, O Lord our God.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Govern and direct your holy Church;
fill it with love and truth;
and grant it that unity which is your will.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us boldness to preach the gospel in all the world,
and to make disciples of all the nations.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Enlighten *N* our Bishop and all who minister
with knowledge and understanding,
that by their teaching and their lives they may proclaim your word.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give your people grace to hear and receive your word,
and to bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bring into the way of truth all who have erred
and are deceived.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Strengthen those who stand;
comfort and help the faint-hearted;
raise up the fallen;
and finally beat down Satan under our feet.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

V

Guide the leaders of the nations
into the ways of peace and justice.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Guard and strengthen your servant *Elizabeth our Queen*,
that she may put her trust in you,
and seek your honour and glory.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Endue the High Court of Parliament
and all the Ministers of the Crown
with wisdom and understanding.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless those who administer the law,
that they may uphold justice, honesty and truth.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Give us the will to use the resources of the earth to your glory,
and for the good of all creation.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless and keep all your people.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

Bring your joy into all families;
strengthen and deliver those in childbirth,
watch over children and guide the young,
bring reconciliation to those in discord
and peace to those in stress.

All **Hear us, good Lord.**

VI

Help and comfort the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Keep in safety those who travel, and all who are in danger.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Heal the sick in body and mind,
and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Show your pity on prisoners and refugees,
and all who are in trouble.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers,
and turn their hearts.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear us as we remember

those who have died in the peace of Christ,
both those who have confessed the faith
and those whose faith is known to you alone,
and grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

VII

Give us true repentance;
forgive us our sins of negligence and ignorance
and our deliberate sins;
and grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit
to amend our lives according to your holy word.

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

When the Litany is said instead of the Prayers at Morning or Evening Prayer, the Collect of the Day, the Lord's Prayer and the Grace are added here.

The Litany from *The Book of Common Prayer*

○ God the Father of heaven:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

All **○ God the Father of heaven:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.**

○ God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

All **○ God the Son, Redeemer of the world:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.**

○ God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

All **○ God the Holy Ghost,
proceeding from the Father and the Son:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.**

○ holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons and one God:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

All **○ holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity,
three Persons and one God:
have mercy upon us miserable sinners.**

Remember not, Lord, our offences,
nor the offences of our forefathers;
neither take thou vengeance of our sins:
spare us, good Lord, spare thy people,
whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood,
and be not angry with us for ever.

All **Spare us, good Lord.**

From all evil and mischief;
 from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil;
 from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,
All good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart;
 from pride, vain-glory, and hypocrisy;
 from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,
All good Lord, deliver us.

From fornication, and all other deadly sin;
 and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,
All good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest;
 from plague, pestilence, and famine;
 from battle and murder, and from sudden death,
All good Lord, deliver us.

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion;
 from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism;
 from hardness of heart,
 and contempt of thy Word and Commandment,
All good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation;
 by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision;
 by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,
All good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and bloody Sweat;
 by thy Cross and Passion;
 by thy precious Death and Burial;
 by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension;
 and by the coming of the Holy Ghost,
All good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our wealth;
 in the hour of death, and in the day of judgement,
All good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God;
 and that it may please thee to rule and govern
 thy holy Church universal in the right way,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to keep and strengthen
 in the true worshipping of thee,
 in righteousness and holiness of life,
 thy Servant *Elizabeth*, our most gracious *Queen* and Governor,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to rule her heart in thy faith, fear, and love,
 and that she may evermore have affiance in thee,
 and ever seek thy honour and glory,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to be her defender and keeper,
 giving her the victory over all her enemies,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and preserve
Elizabeth the Queen Mother,
Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles Prince of Wales,
 and all the Royal Family,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illuminate
 all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons,
 with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word;
 and that both by their preaching and living
 they may set it forth and shew it accordingly,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to endue the Lords of the Council,
 and all the Nobility,[†]
 with grace, wisdom, and understanding,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep the Magistrates,
 giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,
All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

† or the High Court of Parliament and all the Ministers of the Crown

That it may please thee to give to all nations
unity, peace, and concord,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and dread thee,
and diligently to live after thy commandments,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace,
to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection,
and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth
all such as have erred, and are deceived,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand;
and to comfort and help the weak-hearted;
and to raise up them that fall;

and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to succour, help, and comfort
all that are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all that travel
by land or by water; †

all women labouring of child, all sick persons, and young children;
and to shew thy pity upon all prisoners and captives,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for,
the fatherless children, and widows,
and all that are desolate and oppressed,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies,
persecutors, and slanderers,
and to turn their hearts,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use
the kindly fruits of the earth,
so as in due time we may enjoy them,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance;
to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances;
and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit,
to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,

All we beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

All Son of God: we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

All

O Lamb of God: that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

All

O Christ, hear us.

All O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

All Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

All Lord, have mercy upon us.

† or by land or air or water

All **Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.**

O Lord, deal not with us after our sins.

All **Neither reward us after our iniquities.**

Let us pray.

O God, merciful Father,
that despisest not the sighing of a contrite heart,
nor the desire of such as be sorrowful:
mercifully assist our prayers that we make before thee
in all our troubles and adversities, whensoever they oppress us;
and graciously hear us, that those evils,
which the craft and subtilty of the devil or man worketh against us,
be brought to nought,
and by the providence of thy goodness they may be dispersed;
that we thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions,
may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thy Name's sake.**

O God, we have heard with our ears,
and our fathers have declared unto us,
the noble works that thou didst in their days,
and in the old time before them.

All **O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thine honour.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;

All **as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
world without end. Amen.**

From our enemies defend us, O Christ.

All **Graciously look upon our afflictions.**

Pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts.

All **Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.**

Favourably with mercy hear our prayers.

All **O Son of David, have mercy upon us.**

Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ.

All **Graciously hear us, O Christ;
graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.**

O Lord, let thy mercy be shewed upon us;

All **as we do put our trust in thee.**

Let us pray.

We humbly beseech thee, O Father,
mercifully to look upon our infirmities;
and for the glory of thy Name
turn from us all those evils that we most righteously have deserved;
and grant that in all our troubles
we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy,
and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living,
to thy honour and glory;
through our only Mediator and Advocate,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Almighty God,
who hast given us grace at this time
with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee;
and dost promise
that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name
thou wilt grant their requests:
fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants,
as may be most expedient for them;
granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting.

All **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost,
be with us all evermore.

All **Amen.**

2 Corinthians 13.13

Authorized Forms of Confession and Absolution

The forms of confession in the Order of Holy Communion and Morning and Evening Prayer in The Book of Common Prayer may be used on any occasion. These or one of the forms in the services in Common Worship should normally be used.

It may sometimes be helpful to vary the form on particular occasions, in which case one of the confessions and absolutions which follow should be used. If possible, an absolution should be chosen which reflects the style, in language and length, of the confession. 'Us' and 'our' are said by those who are not ordained priest: words in italics indicate the points where changes may be necessary.

¶ Confessions

Incarnation, Christmas

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

Your Son our Saviour
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our self-interest and lack of vision.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:

All **forgive and heal us.**

Lent, Penitence

Let us admit to God the sin which always confronts us.

**All Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.** *cf Psalm 51*
Amen.

Cross, Failure in Discipleship

Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.
We ask for your mercy and your help.

Our selfishness betrays you:
Lord, forgive us.

All Christ have mercy.

We fail to share the pain of your suffering:
Lord, forgive us.

All Christ have mercy.

We run away from those who abuse you:
Lord, forgive us.

All Christ have mercy.

We are afraid of being known to belong to you:
Lord, forgive us.

All Christ have mercy.

Resurrection, Heaven, Glory, Transfiguration, Death, Funerals

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.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived by the light of our own eyes,
as faithless and not believing.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

We have lived for this world alone,
and doubted our home in heaven.
In your mercy, forgive us.

All Lord, hear us and help us.

Trinity, Mission

**All O King enthroned on high,
filling the earth with your glory:
holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you
to take our guilt away,
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Creation, Harvest

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,
in the misuse of God's creation.

God our Father, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.

Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.
Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.
Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

City, World and Society

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,
this is your world and we are your people:
come among us and save us.

We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;
Lord, be merciful:

All forgive us our sin.

We have seen the ill-treatment of others
and have not gone to their aid;
Lord, be merciful:

All forgive us our sin.

We have condoned evil and dishonesty
and failed to strive for justice;
Lord, be merciful:

All forgive us our sin.

We have heard the good news of Christ,
but have failed to share it with others;
Lord, be merciful:

All forgive us our sin.

We have not loved you with all our heart,
nor our neighbours as ourselves;
Lord, be merciful:

All forgive us our sin.

Reconciliation

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:

**All Father,
we have sinned against heaven and against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.
We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us,
bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead
but now have life through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

cf Luke 15

Come, let us return to the Lord and say:

All **Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

cf Hosea 6

General

God our Father,
we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you,
and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:

All **save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish,
without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:

All **save us and help us.**

For failing you by what we do,
and think and say;
Father, forgive us:

All **save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:

All **save us and help us.**

For living as if we were ashamed
to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:

All **save us and help us.**

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.**

General

All **Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have wandered and strayed from your ways
like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires
of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things
that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things
that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.
Spare those who confess their faults.
Restore those who are penitent,
according to your promises declared to mankind
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**

**All Almighty God,
 Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
 maker of all things, judge of all people,
 we acknowledge and confess
 the grievous sins and wickedness
 which we have so often committed
 by thought, word and deed
 against your divine majesty,
 provoking most justly your anger
 and indignation against us.
 We earnestly repent,
 and are deeply sorry for these our wrongdoings;
 the memory of them weighs us down,
 the burden of them is too great for us to bear.
 Have mercy upon us,
 have mercy upon us, most merciful Father,
 for your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
 forgive us all that is past;
 and grant that from this time onwards
 we may always serve and please you
 in newness of life,
 to the honour and glory of your name,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 Amen.**

Man born of woman has but a short time to live.†
 We have our fill of sorrow.
 We blossom like a flower and wither away.
 We slip away like a shadow and do not stay.

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

In the midst of life we are in death;
 where can we turn for help?
 Only to you, Lord,
 who are justly angered by our sins.

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

Shut not your ears to our prayers,
 but spare us, O Lord.

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

You know the secrets of our hearts;
 forgive us our sins.

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

Eternal and merciful judge,
 both in life and when we come to die,
 let us not fall away from you.

**All Holy God,
 holy and mighty,
 holy and merciful Saviour,
 do not abandon us to the bitterness of eternal death.**

† or Those born of women have but a short time to live.

General

All **Almighty God,**
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.
O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

General

All **My God, for love of you**
I desire to hate and forsake all sins
by which I have ever displeased you;
and I resolve by the help of your grace
to commit them no more;
and to avoid all opportunities of sin.
Help me to do this,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

¶ Kyrie Confessions

Short sentences may be inserted between the petitions of the Kyrie, suitable for particular seasons or themes. The insertion of such sentences may replace any form of confession, provided that the sentences are of a penitential character and are followed by an authorized form of absolution. Some examples follow (see also pages 277–278).

Spirit

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Word

May your loving mercy come to me, O Lord,
and your salvation according to your word:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Your word is a lantern to my feet and a light to my path:
Christ, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

O let your mercy come to me that I may live,
for your law is my delight:
Lord, have mercy.

All **Lord, have mercy.**

Word

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:
Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

City

Lord Jesus, you wept over the sins of your city.
On our city: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division,
jealousy and bitterness.
On us: Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you bring pardon and peace to the sinner.
Grant us peace: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Absolutions

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw *us* to himself,
and cleanse *us* from all *our* sins
that we may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring *you* his pardon and peace, now and for ever.

All Amen.

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.

May the God of love and power
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

May the Father forgive *us*
by the death of his Son
and strengthen *us*
to live in the power of the Spirit
all *our* days.

All Amen.

The Lord enrich *you* with his grace,
and nourish *you* with his blessing;
the Lord defend *you* in trouble and keep *you* from all evil;
the Lord accept *your* prayers,
and absolve *you* from *your* offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

All **Amen.**

May God who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Saviour
forgive *us our* sins
and make *us* holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

May God our Father forgive *us our* sins,
and bring *us* to the fellowship of his table
with his saints for ever.

All **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 almighty and merciful Lord
grant *you* pardon and forgiveness of all *your* sins,
time for amendment of life,
and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

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.

All **Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on *us*,
forgive *us our* sins,
and bring *us* to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

God, the Father of mercies,
has reconciled the world to himself
through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ,
not counting our trespasses against us,
but sending his Holy Spirit
to shed abroad his love among us.
By the ministry of reconciliation
entrusted by Christ to his Church,
receive his pardon and peace
to stand before him in his strength alone,
this day and evermore.

All **Amen.**

Creeds and Authorized Affirmations of Faith

¶ Creeds

At a celebration of Holy Communion, the Apostles' Creed or the Athanasian Creed in an authorized form may be used in place of the Nicene Creed, or an authorized Affirmation of Faith may be used. Suitable words of introduction or conclusion (such as 'Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit') to the Creed or Affirmation of Faith may be used.

The Nicene Creed

The text of the Nicene Creed is printed in the Orders for the Celebration of Holy Communion on pages 173, 213, 234, and 253.

The Nicene Creed may be used responsively as follows

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
**All maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
**All God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.

All Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

**All For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;

**All he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

All the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

All With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.

All We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**All We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

An Alternative Text of the Nicene Creed

This text of the Nicene Creed, which omits the phrase 'and the Son' in the third paragraph, may be used on suitable ecumenical occasions

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

The Apostles' Creed

The origin of the Apostles' Creed is the profession of faith made at baptism. This association may have implications for the occasion when it is used at Holy Communion.

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.**

(or)

All **I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried.
He descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

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

The Apostles' Creed may also be used in the following form

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **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.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **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.**

The Athanasian Creed

*The authorized form of the Athanasian Creed is that contained in
The Book of Common Prayer.*

¶ Authorized Affirmations of Faith

In addition to the Nicene Creed, the Apostles' Creed and the Athanasian Creed, the following forms of the Creeds and these Affirmations of Faith are also authorized.

1

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?

All **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

All **This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

2

We proclaim the Church's faith in Jesus Christ.

All **We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, is both divine and human.**

God, of the being of the Father,
the only Son from before time began;
human from the being of his mother, born in the world;

All **fully God and fully human;
human in both mind and body.**

As God he is equal to the Father,
as human he is less than the Father.

All **Although he is both divine and human
he is not two beings but one Christ.**

One, not by turning God into flesh,
but by taking humanity into God;

All **truly one, not by mixing humanity with Godhead,
but by being one person.**

For as mind and body form one human being
so the one Christ is both divine and human.

All **The Word became flesh and lived among us;
we have seen his glory,
the glory of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

from the Athanasian Creed

3

All **We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.**

**We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.**

**So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

(May be sung to any 87 87 or 87 87D tune.)

4

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All **Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.
Taking the form of a slave,
he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself
and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.
Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. *cf Philipians 2.6-11*
Amen.**

5

Let us declare our faith
in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he was buried;
he was raised to life on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures;
afterwards he appeared to his followers,
and to all the apostles:
this we have received,
and this we believe. *cf 1 Corinthians 15.3-7*
Amen.**

6

We say together in faith

**All Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

**All for by his will they were created
and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:

**All for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**All the Spirit and the Bride say, 'Come!'
Even so come, Lord Jesus! *cf Revelation 4.8, 11; 5.9; 22.17, 20*
Amen.**

7

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All 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.**

cf Ephesians 3

¶ A Form for the Corporate Renewal of Baptismal Vows

*when celebrated within a service other than
Baptism or Confirmation*

Notes

- 1 This form should be used only when there has been due notice and proper preparation. It is recommended that it is used no more than once or twice in any one year. Suitable opportunities include Easter, Pentecost, the Baptism of Christ in Epiphany, and the inauguration of a new ministry.
- 2 This form is a corporate affirmation for use within a service. When it is used it replaces the Creed or other Affirmation of Faith.
- 3 Where it is customary for the assembly to be sprinkled with water from the font or to sign themselves with water from the font, this may take place immediately after the Profession of Faith or during a hymn, canticle or song at the conclusion of this form.

A Corporate Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The president may use words of introduction to this part of the service.

A large candle may be lit. The president may address the congregation as follows

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

All I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

All I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

All I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

All I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

All I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All I come to Christ.

The president may say

May almighty God who has given you the desire to follow Christ give you the strength to continue in the way.

The Profession of Faith

The president addresses the congregation

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

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

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All 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.

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All 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.

The president says

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptized into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The president may use the Affirmation of Commitment (page 152).

The president concludes the Renewal of Vows saying

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, that you may be rooted and grounded in love and bring forth the fruit of the Spirit.

All Amen.

¶ Affirmation of Commitment

This Affirmation of Commitment may be used after an authorized Creed or Affirmation of Faith

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself?

All With the help of God, I will.

Will you acknowledge Christ's authority over human society, by prayer for the world and its leaders, by defending the weak, and by seeking peace and justice?

All With the help of God, I will.