

**Services of Daily Prayer for Autumn/Winter 2021**

**Ordinary Time - Advent**

**Page 2: Common Worship Morning Prayer**

**Page 5: Franciscan Daily Prayer**

**Page 7: Morning Prayer in the Moravian Tradition**

**Page 9: Wee Worship Morning Liturgy A**

**Page 12: Moravian Prayer for All Saints**

**Page 14: Common Worship Morning Prayer from All Saints to Advent**

**Page 17: Morning Prayer Thy Kingdom Come**

**Page 20: Lindisfarne Morning Prayer**

**Page 22: Morning Prayer from the Boiler Room (24/7 Prayer)**

**Page 24: Iona Morning Prayer**

**Page 27: Celtic Prayer for Advent**

**Page 29: Morning Prayer for Advent in the Moravian Tradition**

**Page 32: Iona Morning Prayer for Advent**

**Page 34: Night Prayer from the Anglican Church in New Zealand**

**Page 38: The Examine**

**Page 40: Advent Compline**

**Common Worship Morning Prayer**

O Lord, open our lips

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

***Song of God’s Righteousness:***

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.

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

Who forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

**Who redeems your life from the pit,**

**And crowns you with faithful love and compassion;**

Who satisfies you with good things, so that your youth is renewed like an eagle’s.

**The Lord executes righteousness and judgement for all who are oppressed.**

He made his ways known to Moses and his words to the children of Israel.

**The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom has dominion over all.**

Bless the Lord, you angels of his, you mighty ones who do his bidding, and hearken to the voice of his word.

**Bless the Lord, all you his hosts, you ministers of his who do his will.**

Bless the Lord, all you works of his, in all places of his dominion;

Bless the Lord, O my soul. *(Psalm 103: 1-7, 19-22)*

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and shall be forever. Amen**

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

***Silence***

**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 forever. Amen**

***Psalm***

***Canticle:***

**Spirit of God, teach us your ways, that we may walk in the paths of peace.**

Come let us go up to the mountain of God, to the house of the God of Jacob;

**That God may teach us his ways, and that we may walk in his paths.**

For the law shall go out from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem

**God shall judge between the nations, and shall mediate for many peoples.**

They shall beat their swords into ploughshares,

And their spears into pruning hooks.

**Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,**

**Neither shall they learn war any more.**

O people of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen** *(Isaiah 2: 3-5)*

**Spirit of God, teach us your ways, that we may walk in the paths of peace.**

***Reading***

***Response:***

Open my eyes, O Lord, that I may see the wonders of your law.

**Open my eyes, O Lord, that I may see the wonders of your law.**

Lead me in the paths of your commandments

**That I may see the wonders of your law.**

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

**Open my eyes, O Lord, that I may see the wonders of your law.**

***Gospel Canticle:***

**In your tender compassion, O God,**

**The dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,**

**Who has come to his people and set them free.**

**He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,**

**Born of the house of his servant David.**

**Through his holy prophets, God promised of old**

**To save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,**

**To show mercy to his ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant.**

**This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:**

**To set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

**Free to worship him without fear,**

**Holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

**And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,**

**For you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.**

**To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of all their sins.**

**In the tender compassion of our God,**

**The dawn from on high shall break upon us,**

**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 forever. Amen.**

**In your tender compassion, O God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

***Prayers***

***Collect:***

Eternal God and Father,

You create and redeem us by the power of your love:

Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,

That we may give ourselves in love and service to one another, and to you;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

***The Lord’s Prayer***

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

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

Common Worship Morning Prayer © The Archbishop’s Council 2002 and 2006

**Franciscan Prayer**

We adore you,

**Most holy Lord Jesus Christ,**

**Here and in all your churches throughout the world,**

**We bless you because by your holy cross**

**You have redeemed the world.**

Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful people

**And kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**And blessed be His kingdom now and forever.**

***Canticle:***

You are the holy Lord God; who does wonderful things.

You are strong; you are great; you are the Most High.

You are the almighty King.

You, holy Father, King of heaven and earth.

**You are three and one, the Lord God of gods;**

**You are the good, all good, the highest good,**

**Lord God living and true.**

You are love, you are charity, you are wisdom, you are humility, you are patience, you are beauty, you are meekness, you are security, you are rest.

**You are gladness and joy, you are our hope, you are justice,**

**You are moderation, you are all our riches to sufficiency.**

You are beauty, you are meekness, you are the protector,

You are our custodian and defender.

**You are strength,**

**You are refreshment,**

**You are our hope,**

**You are our faith,**

**You are our charity.**

You are all our sweetness, you are our eternal life:

Great and wonderful Lord, Almighty God, Merciful Saviour.

***Reading***

***Prayers:***

Lord Jesus Christ,

Who when the world was growing cold to the inflaming of our hearts by the fire of your love, raised up blessed Francis, bearing in his body the marks of your passion:

Mercifully grant to us, your people, true penitence and grace to bear the cross of love of you; who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Amen

***Time of open prayer***

***Blessing:***

May God kindle in us the fire of love. **Amen**

The Lord bless you and keep you:

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you His peace.

My sisters and brothers, the Lord bless you. Amen

Taken from the prayers of St Francis

**Morning Prayer in the Moravian Tradition**

Christ invites us to come to worship:

**to rest from the things that are troubling us;**

to pray for the needs of those close to us as well as for the needs of the world

**to realise what we can offer to others**

and so to return into the world to serve.

**Let us worship God who reigns over all the earth.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Let us come into the presence with thanksgiving;

**Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

For the Lord is a great God

**And a great King above all gods.**

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

**The heights of the mountains are his also.**

The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land,

**Which his hands have formed.**

O come, let us worship and bow down,

**Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

**For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep in His hand.**

O that today you would listen to His voice! *(Psalm 95:1-7)*

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

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

Lord Jesus, we come before you in humble confession. Help us conform our lives to you as the model for holy and righteous living.

**Forgive us for living for ourselves.**

**Forgive us for not being true to you.**

**Forgive us for not being kind to others.**

**Forgive us for not sharing your good news with the nations.**

God says: *‘I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed,*

*And I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak (Ezekiel 34:16)*

**Holy Spirit, empower us to accept the grace that our Lord and Saviour,**

**Jesus Christ, offers us today.**

Hear the words of our Lord: *’Your sins are forgiven, go and sin no more’.*

***Bible Reading***

***Time of open prayer***

As you taught your disciples to pray, so we pray together:

**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**

Lord awaken us

**To your presence with us in each moment.**

Lord awaken us

**To the suffering of others.**

Lord awaken us

**To the grace that you have already extended to us.**

Lord awaken us.

**To see how we can share grace with those around us.**

**Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,**

**Since as members of one body we were called to peace.**

**Whatever we do in word or deed,**

**May we do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus,**

**Giving thanks through him to God the Father. Amen**

Christ, and him crucified

**Remain our confession of faith. Amen**

Prayer from Moravian Daily Texts © The Moravian Church in America, 1995

**Wild Goose Worship – A Wee Worship Book**

**Morning Liturgy A**

**Call to worship**

In the beginning

before time, before people,

before the world began

**God was**

Here and now

among us, beside us

enlisting the people of earth

for the purposes of heaven

**God is**

In the future

when we have turned to dust

and all we know has found its fulfilment

**God will be**

Not denying the world but delighting in it

not condemning the world, but redeeming it

through Jesus Christ

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**God was**

**God is**

**God will be**

**Prayer**

Let us pray

In you, gracious God

the widowed find a carer

the orphaned find a parent

the fearful find a friend.

In you,

the wounded find a healer

the penitent find a pardoner

the burdened find a counsellor.

In you,

the miserly find a beggar,

the despondent find a laughter-maker

the legalists find a rule breaker.

In you, Jesus Christ

we meet our Maker

and our match.

And if some need to say ‘help me’

and if some need to say ‘save me’

and if some need to say ‘hold me’

and if some need to say ‘forgive me’

then let these be said now

in confidence

by us.

*silence*

O Christ

in whose heart is both welcome and warning

say to us,

do to us

reveal within us

the things that will make us whole.

And we will wait;

and we will praise you,

Amen

**Bible Reading**

Hear the Word of God

**Our ears are open**

A reading from…

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Reflection**

**Prayers**

**Closing Response**

For all that God can do within us

for all that God can do without us

**Thanks be to God**

For all in whom Christ lived before us

For all in whom Christ lives beside us

**Thanks be to God**

For all the Spirit wants to bring us,

for where the Spirit wants to send us

**Thanks be to God**

Listen

Christ has promised to be with us

in the world as in our worship

**Amen**

**We go to serve him.**

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**Moravian Prayer for All Saints**

Behold, a great multitude, which no one can number, out of every nation and of all tribes, and peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, with palm branches in their hands,

**And they cry with a loud voice saying, "Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb."**

These are the ones of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and the holes in the ground. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were slain with the sword, they were burned at the stake, they were killed by an assassin's bullet. They were destitute, persecuted, tormented. These are the ones who have come out of great tribulation; they have washed their robes and cleansed them in the blood of the Lamb.

**Therefore they are before the throne of God, and they worship day and night in the temple.**

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their Shepherd, and will guide them to springs of living water.

**And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.**

**Bible Reading**

followed by a short time of reflection

**Open Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Responses**

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

**For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

**No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. If God is for us, who can be against us!**

Hear the words of the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, who was dead and is alive again: Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

**To him who loves us and washed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests to God, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

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**Common Worship Morning Prayer** *(All Saints to Advent)*

O Lord, open our lips

**and our mouth shall proclaim your praise**

*All Saints to Advent:*

Your faithful servants bless you.
**They make known the glory of your kingdom.**

*Advent:*

Reveal among us the light of your presence
**that we might behold your power and glory**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
ruler and judge of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In the darkness of the age that is passing away
may the light of your presence which the saints enjoy

surround our steps as we journey on.
May we reflect your glory this day
and so be made ready to see your face
in the heavenly city where. Night shall be no more.
Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**Blessed be God for ever.**

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 out hearts on fire

with love for you; now and for ever.  **Amen**

**Bible Reading**

*one of these or the lectionary reading for the day*

*From All Saints to Advent:*‘When you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you.

I will let you find me,’ says the Lord, ‘and I will restore your fortunes.’

*(Jeremiah 29.12,14)*

*Advent:*

Now is the time to wake out of sleep, for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. *(Romans 13.11)*

Our Lord says, ‘Surely, I come quickly.’ Even so; come, Lord Jesus. *(Rev 22.20)*

**Benedictus**

1. **Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel:
 for he 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 he promised of old:**

 **that he would save us from our enemies,**

 **from the hands of all that hate us.**

**4. He promised to show mercy to our fathers:**

 **and to remember his holy covenant.**

**5. This was the oath he 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. You my 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.**

 **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.**

**Prayers**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Collect and Conclusion**

*these or the Collect for the day*

*All Saints to Advent*

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, bring us to the dwelling which your Son is preparing for all who love you; give us each the will each day to live in life eternal; let our citizenship be in heaven with the blessed, with the whole company of the redeemed and with countless angels, praising, worshipping and adoring your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who sits upon the throne forever. **Amen**

May Christ who has opened the kingdom of heaven,

bring us to reign with him in glory. **Amen**

*Advent*

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness

and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal

life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;

that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious

majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life

immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

**Amen**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

Common Worship Morning Prayer © The Archbishop’s Council 2002 and 2006

**Morning Prayer – Thy Kingdom Come**

Lord, we wait with eager expectation for the coming of Your kingdom

when the humble will be exalted and the hungry fed.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we prepare for Your advent with searching minds and contrite hearts,

trusting in Your healing spirit and redemptive love.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we watch with those who wait and weep,

longing to see the rule of justice and the reign of peace.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we seek You among the despised and rejected,

knowing that there we will find Your light shining in the dark.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we proclaim sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed,

trusting in Your tender mercy and passion for justice.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we work with others to proclaim Your truth,

challenging the mighty and raising the meek.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we wrestle with our hopes and our fears, our struggles and our joys

labouring with creation to come to new birth.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*~ Annabel Shilson-Thomas.  Posted on the****Christian Brothers of the Midwest website.***[*http://www.cbmidwest.org/*](http://www.cbmidwest.org/) *on re:Worship*

**Bible Reading**

**Reflection**

**Prayers**

God calls us together to work collaboratively in the building of God’s kingdom, and so we pray:

Offering ourselves,

and bringing the depth of our care for others

and the life of the world.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

In a world where carelessness and selfishness often dictate the use of creation, we pray:

For a respect for all your creatures;

For wisdom in the use of resources

So that all may continue to enjoy the earth you have given us.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

In a world where success is measured by possessions, power and celebrity, we pray:

For wealth and resources to be fairly shared;

For opportunities to be available to all;

For trust, justice and integrity to underwrite human community.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

For a world where so many destructive barriers separate human beings, we pray:

For faith communities to be open to each other;

For peacemakers;

For councils of reconciliation rather than councils of war;

For the willingness to talk and to listen;

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

In a world where many feel lonely and isolated, we pray:

For a greater sense of community;

For the tools of modern media to be used to deepen and improve

rather than damage our relationships;

That compassion and understanding

be the guide of our words and our actions.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

In a world where Christians are divided by history, belief, practice and personal preference, we pray:

For a willingness to see God

as bigger than our own understanding;

For a determination to work together

in the building of God’s kingdom;

For a desire to share with others

in the proclamation of Christ

and the living out of his presence in local communities.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

**May your kingdom come.**

For those in local communities who face illness, bereavement, and those who struggle with their everyday lives, we pray:

For the touch of healing and wholeness;

For the touch of care and support;

For the touch of hope and joy.

Lord, we offer ourselves to you

May your kingdom come.

Lord, may our lives reflect our relationship with you that together we may seek the coming of your kingdom.

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**The Conclusion**

**Together we are sharers in God’s kingdom,**

**Together we are builders of God’s kingdom.**

**May all that we say, and do, and are,**

**be grounded in God’s love.**

**Amen**

We say together:

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

Material taken from Thy Kingdom Come: Resources for the Methodist Church 2019

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**Morning Prayer from “Liturgies from Lindisfarne”**

**Opening**

Shine on us, Lord, like the sun that lights up day;

**chase away the dark and all shadow of sin.**

May we wake eager to hear your Word;

**as day follows night may we be bathed in your**

**glory.**

**Psalm** *(Read from any psalm or this extract from Psalm 63)*

O God, I long for you from early morning;

my whole being desires you.

Like a dry, worn-out and

waterless land my soul is thirsty for you.

Let me see you in the place of prayer;

let me see how glorious you are.

Your constant love is better than life itself,

and so I will praise you.

I will give thanks as long as I live.

I will raise my hands to you in prayer.

My soul will feast and be satisfied,

and I will sing glad songs of praise to you.

**Illumine our hearts, O Lord;**

**implant in us a desire for your truth.**

May all that is false within us flee.

**Bible reading** Luke 4:16–21

*Silence, singing or meditation*

**Prayers**

Lord, we offer you all we are, all we have, all we do,

and all whom we shall meet this day,

that you will be given the glory.

We offer you our homes and work, our schools

and leisure, and everyone in our community today;

may all be done as if it is for you.

We offer you those who lack and those who earn.

May the wealth and work of the world

be available to all

and for the exploitation of none.

*Time of Open Prayer*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing**

Circle us, Lord.

**Keep strife without, keep peace within.**

**Keep fear without, keep hope within.**

**Keep pride without, keep trust within.**

**Keep harm without, keep good within.**

May we walk in the hope of your kingdom,

**fill us with your light and love.**

Be with us all through this day,

**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Material taken from ‘Liturgies from Lindisfarne by Ray Simpson, Kevin Mayhew Press

**Morning Prayer from The Boiler Room – 24/7 prayer**

*Begin with a period of silence*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

**Opening Sentences**

Jesus, we come before you.

Humbly, quietly, in obedience, seeking your peace

**In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice;**

**In the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.**

Where morning dawns and evening fades you call forth songs of joy.

God of light and glory. As the dawn brings in a new day,

**We remember your mercies are new each morning.**

**We praise you for this new day you have made.**

**Take it, use it, bring glory to yourself.**

**Take our lives,**

**Take our work and efforts,**

**Take our thoughts**

**Take our very breath and use it for your glory.**

*A short period of silent prayer is held to consider what today will bring and to offer our day and ourselves up to God.*

**Expressions of Praise**

In God I’ll sing for joy

My praise explodes from deep within me.

He has dressed me up in a suit of salvation

He has outfitted me in a robe of righteousness.

Because of Jesus Christ we are saved

**In God I will find joy**

Because of His love there is healing

**In God I will find joy**

Because of His grace we can be made clean

**In God I will find joy**

God is bringing in His Kingdom

**In God I will find joy**

Let justice roll down like a river

**In God I will find joy**

And righteousness like a never failing stream

**In God I will find joy**

Because of Jesus we pray for our city, our nation and our world

**In God I will find joy**

Lord put your praise on display in the whole world

**Bible Reading**

*followed by a meditation or a period of reflection*

**Time of Open Prayer**

**Prayers of Dedication**

Lord Jesus, you lived your life on earth doing only what the Father commanded you. Let us be true to you Lord Jesus as you were true to your Father.

**Father help us, may we be true to Christ**

You ate with the tax collectors and sinners, you cared for the leper, you were compassionate to the mis-treated and the alienated. Jesus may we have your compassion toward others.

**Father help us, may we be kind to others**

You showed us the Father. You demonstrated the love of God to the world. You call us to be your witnesses.

**Father help us, may we take the gospel to the nations.**

**Blessing**

May the Father strengthen us with His Spirit.

Not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength

That Christ may live in us as we open the door and invite him in.

And with our feet firmly planted in love,

may we be able to take in the extravagant dimensions of His love for us.

The breath, the length, the depth, the heights.

Today Lord, help us to live full lives, in the fullness of God.

 **Amen**

Material taken from <https://www.24-7prayer.com/officesmorningprayer>

**Iona Morning Prayer**

**Call to Worship**

In the beginning

before time, before people,

before the world began,

**God was.**

Here and now

among us, beside us,

enlisting the peoples of the earth

for the purposes of heaven,

**God is.**

In the future,

when all have turned to dust

and all we know has found its fulfilment,

**God will be.**

Not denying the world, but delighting in it,

not condemning the world, but redeeming it,

through Jesus Christ,

by the power of the Holy Spirit,

**God was,**

**God is,**

**God will be.**

**Bible Reading**

 *(At the beginning of the reading:)*

In the beginning was the Word

**And the word was with God,**

**And the word was God**

*(At the end of the reading:)*

For the Word of God in scripture,

for the Word of God among us,

for the Word of God within us;

**Thanks be to God.**

**Prayers**

Leader: Let us pray for the breaking in of God’s kingdom

in our world today.

*Open prayer*

Lord God, because Jesus has taught us to trust you in all things we hold to his word and share his plea:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where nations budget for war,

while Christ says, ‘Put down your sword’:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where countries waste food and covet fashion,

while Christ says, ‘I was hungry… I was thirsty…’

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where Christians seek the kingdom

in the shape of their own church,

as if Christ had come to build

and not to break barriers:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where we, obsessed with being adult,

forget to become like children:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where our prayers falter,

our faith weakens, our light grows dim:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Where Jesus Christ calls us:

**Your kingdom come, your will be done**

Lord God,

you have declared that your kingdom is among us.

Open our ears to hear it, our hands to serve it,

our hearts to hold it. This we pray in Jesus’ name.

**Amen**

**The Sending Out**

From where we now are

to where you need us,

**Jesus, now lead us on.**

From the security of what we know

to the adventure of what you will reveal,

**Jesus, now lead us on.**

To refashion the fabric of this world

until it resembles the shape of your kingdom,

**Jesus, now lead us on.**

**The Blessing**

Lord, set your blessing on us

as we begin this day together.

Confirm in us the truth

by which we rightly live;

confront us with the truth

from which we wrongly turn.

We ask not for what we want

but for what you know we need,

as we offer this day and ourselves

for you and to you

through Jesus Christ, our Saviour

**Amen**

**The Lord be with you.**

And also with you.

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**Celtic Prayer for Advent**

Days of heavy clouds stifling the sunlight

the world burdened by greyness and gloom

**Open our eyes, Lord**

**to the coming of your light**

**lifting the burden of darkness from our lives**

A Chill that seeps deep into bones

hearts and spirits rigid with frost-hardness

souls wrapped up against coldness and loneliness.

**Open our souls, Lord**

**to the warmth of your coming**

**melting the hardness**

**that keeps us from you**

**and from each other**

Trees - branches bare against the steel skies

stems crumpled under weight of frost - weight of snow

last year’s leaves - blackened and slippery underfoot -

nature oppressed by wintriness -

yet resting - awaiting rebirth.

**Cherish our hearts, lord**

**oppressed by wintriness**

**assure us of your coming,**

**of your call to new life**

**Celtic Litany of Praise**

Gathering in this place where heaven and earth whisper greeting;

In this house where the High King of Heaven comes to meet us;

In the soft darkness of this place, we kindle lights of hope for the world.

We join with the saints who have lived and loved this place

to give glory and praise to God;

**Bible Reading**

**Intercessions**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Responses**

We take the light of our prayer into the world

**To pray for those unable to pray;**

**to offer ourselves as answer to prayer.**

We take the light of our compassion into the world:

**To come alongside those who are suffering**

**anguish of heart**

**anguish of mind**

**and be a Christ for them.**

We take the light of God's power into the world:

**God’s power made perfect in powerless**

**strength made known in weakness**

**life made known in dying**

God enters the hearts of all who pray - and feel they are not heard

suffers their pain -

their humiliation -

carries the burdens of the world

and dies that we might live

May our God bless us

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit**

And until we meet again

**May God hold us in the palm of His hand.**

**Amen**

Material taken from [www.wellsprings.org.uk](http://www.wellsprings.org.uk)

**Morning Prayer for Advent in the Moravian Tradition**

Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, all the earth! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

**Rejoice greatly, shout for joy! See, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and brings salvation.**

We praise you, the Lord God of Israel! You came to the help of your people and have set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour, a descendant of your servant David.**

You promised through your holy prophets long ago that you would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

**You have shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and have remembered your holy covenant.**

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham, you promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve you without fear,

**So that we might be holy and righteous before you all the days of our life**.

By your tender mercy you cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us,

**To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a straight path on which he may come.

In this time of self examination, as we prepare once again to meet the newborn King, let us confess our sins, so that our crooked ways will be made straight and the rough ways smooth.

**Gracious Lord Jesus,**

**you come to us with the good news of salvation,**

**but too often we fail to notice.**

**You come to us day by day,**

**yet we close the doors of our hearts**

**when it seems convenient to do things our own way.**

**We ignore your presence and your leadership.**

**We have failed to act justly, to love mercy,**

**and to walk humbly with our God.**

**Forgive us merciful Lord.**

**May we live so that the world**

**will know that you have come.**

**Amen.**

Through John the Baptizer, we hear the Lord's promise: Turn away from your sins, and God will forgive your sins.

**The Collect**

**Bible Reading**

**Time of Reflection**

**Prayers**

Eternal God, Ruler of all ages, graciously you come to us in order that we might come to you, through the merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

**Help us and all your children to respond to the call of your gospel with faith, love, and hope.**

God of faith, you created humanity to serve and praise you; and even when we rebelled against you, you promised to send a Saviour to redeem us from our sins:

**Strengthen our faith in your saving work through Christ. As you chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of redemption through the prophets, may people today believe in your good will for all that you have made.**

God of love, you fulfilled your promise of a redeemer in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

**Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor and the homeless, with the victims of injustice and discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times of trouble.**

God of hope, you comfort us through our Saviour's promise to return in glory at the end of time:

**As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.**

God of faith, love, and hope, to you and to you alone we pray:

**For you are our God, the only God, forever and ever. Amen.**

Lord, you have kept the promise you made to our ancestors, and have come to the help of your servant people.

**You remembered to show mercy to Abraham and Sarah and to all their descendants forever!**

We praise you, Lord. You are enthroned in glory, yet you came and continue to come for all who will receive you. We praise you, for you are good, and your mercy endures forever.

**To you be glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.**

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**Iona Morning Prayer for Advent**

**A Call to Worship**

Let us prepare to welcome our God!

A distant star glinting in the indigo sky:

**Come, Jesus, come**

A blazing beacon lighting up the way:

**Come, Jesus, come**

An energising sun brightening a gloomy day:

**Come, Jesus, come**

We await the Christ,

**The one who will explain God to us**

He comes to us as sparkling light:

**Twinkling with joy and playfulness**

He comes to us as everyday light:

**Brightening the ordinary world around us**

He comes to us as softened light:

**Creating a gentle healing space in the shadows**

He comes to us as a focused spotlight:

**Bringing truth and justice into stark relief**

This is the Light of the world –

**Jesus Christ , come to shine amongst us.**

**Bible Reading**

*followed by a time of reflection*

**Prayers**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Closing Responses**

We gathered as people aware of the shadow that sin casts upon the world.

**We part as people who have celebrated**

**the healing love of God**

**God’s power to dispel the darkness**

**of our hearts and minds and souls**

And so may the God of tenderness and compassion,

who entered this world so weak and so vulnerable,

bless us today and every day unto eternity;

**The Maker, the Healer, the Holy Spirit**

And until we meet again

**May God hold us in the palm of His hand**

**Amen**

Material taken from Light and Darkness, Candles and Conifers; Resources for All Saints to Advent edited by Ruth Burgess. Wild Goose Publications

**Evening Prayer from the Anglican Church in New Zealand**

The angels of God guard us through the night,
**and quieten the powers of darkness.**

The Spirit of God be our guide
**to lead us to peace and to glory.**

It is but lost labour that we haste to rise up early,
and so late take rest, and eat the bread of anxiety.
For those beloved of God are given gifts even while they sleep.

*Silence*

My brothers and sisters,
our help is in the name of the eternal God,
**who makes the heavens and the earth.**

Dear God,
thank you for all that is good,
for our creation and for our humanity,
for the stewardship you have given us of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for your love which is unbounded and eternal.

O thou, most holy and beloved,
my Companion, my Guide upon the way,
my bright evening star.

We repent the wrongs we have done:

*Silence*

We have wounded your love.
**O God, heal us.**

We stumble in the darkness.
**Light of the world transfigure us.**

We forget that we are your home.
**Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Eternal Spirit, flow through our being and open our lips,
**that our mouths may proclaim your praise.**

Let us worship the God of love.
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Psalm

Bible Reading

*One of the following or the lectionary readings for the day is read.*

 *Silence may follow the reading.*

Sunday

God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.*2 Timothy 1:7*

Monday

You Lord are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name. Leave us not. *Jeremiah 14:9*

Tuesday

Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who abuse you. Do good and lend, expecting nothing in return; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish.
Be merciful as your father is merciful. Judge not and you will not be judged. Condemn not and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven.
Give and it will be given to you; for the measure you give will be the measure you receive. *From Luke 6:27-38*

Wednesday

Do not ask anxiously, What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What shall we wear? The whole world runs after such things. Set your heart and mind on God’s commonwealth and justice first, and all the rest will come to you as well. So do not be anxious about tomorrow. Today has enough problems of its own; tomorrow can look after itself. *Matthew 6:31-34*

Thursday

There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and those who are afraid are not perfected in love. We love because God first loved us. If anyone says, I love God, and hates his brother or sister, that person is a liar; for those who do not love their brothers and sisters whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen.*1 John 4:18-20*

Friday

It is the God who said, Let light shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body.*2 Corinthians 4:6-10*

#### Saturday

According to the riches of God’s glory, may you be strengthened with the might through the Holy Spirit in your inner being, and may Christ dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge; that you may be filled with the fulness of God. *Ephesians 3:16-19*

Into your hands, O God, I commend my spirit,
**for you have redeemed me, O God of truth and love.**

Keep me, O God, as the apple of an eye;
**hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

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

**Nunc Dimittis**

**Praise be to God, I have lived to see this day.
God’s promise is fulfilled, and my duty done.**

**At last you have given me peace,**

**for I have seen with my own eyes
the salvation you have prepared for all nations -
a light to the world in its darkness,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory be to God, sustaining, redeeming, sanctifying,
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever.
Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

I will lie down in peace and take my rest,

**for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid.**

Let us bless the Earth-maker, the Pain-bearer, the Life-giver,

**let us praise and exalt God above all for ever.**

May God’s name be praised beyond the furthest star,

**glorified and exalted above all for ever.**

Lord,
it is night.

The night is for stillness.
Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.
What has been done has been done;
what has not been done has not been done;
let it be.

The night is dark.
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives
rest in you.

The night is quiet.
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,
all dear to us,
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.
Let us look expectantly to a new day,
new joys,
new possibilities.

In your name we pray.
**Amen.**

The divine Spirit dwells in us.

**Thanks be to God.**

Night Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

**THE EXAMINE PRAYER**

God of peace, we seek your peace in our hearts and in our world.

**We celebrate your serenity of spirit in the midst of life's opportunities and challenges. We celebrate harmony in our families and in all our relationships. We celebrate the days when our families live in your peace without fear.**

Yet we confess that, at times, we act in ways that do not support the spiritual life we celebrate.

**At times our response to life is less than serene. At times we contribute to the conflict within our families and relationships. At times our actions or attitudes do not provide a safe place for others to grow. At times, Lord God, our hearts do not glorify you.**

**Reflect on the recent past. What, in your life, do you celebrate?**

**For what are you thankful?**

*"And they shall stand every morning, thanking and praising the Lord."*

*(1 Chronicles 23:20)*

*"To you, O God, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and power." (Daniel 2:23)*

**Reflect on the recent past. Where have you witnessed God's presence in your life?**

*"Lord, where can I go from your Spirit? If I ascend to heaven or make my bed in Sheol, you are there." (Psalm 139: 7-8)*

*Jesus assures us, "I will be with you always to the end of the age."*

*(Matthew 28:20)*

**Reflect on the recent past. What might you have done differently to glorify God?**

*"You, 0 Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you." (Psalm 86: 5)*

*"Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication. In the day of my trouble I call on you, for you will answer me." (Psalm 86:6-7)*

God of peace, we seek your peace in our hearts and in our world.

**With grateful hearts we give thanks to you. Fill us with your Spirit. Renew our lives with your purpose. 0pen our hearts to your will.**

*"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's." Amen. (Psalm 103 2-5)*

**Reflections on Psalm 121**

*I lift up my eyes to the hills - from where will my help come?*

*My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.*

Silent reflection: How ready and willing am I to rely on the Lord's help?

Where, in my life, might I rely more on God?

*He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.*

*He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.*

Silent reflection: How have I experienced God's attentiveness in my life?

*The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.*

*The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night*.

Silent reflection: In what way am I feeling the heat of daily living?

What do I need to say to God about this?

*The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.*

*The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.*

Silent reflection: What tempts me to live in ways that are not consistent with God?

What do I have to say to God about this? How does God respond?

**We humbly gather in this place**

**to praise you, Lord, and seek your grace, and, Holy Spirit, we now pray**

**come, work among us every day.**

**As we go forth to do your will,**

**Lord, guide us and your word fulfil,**

**and show us how to work and be your blest disciples, wholly free.**

**Amen**

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**Advent Compline from Common Worship**

May the Lord, when he comes, find us watching and waiting.

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus**

**Collect**

God of power and mercy,

who put aside your heavenly glory

and entered creation to restore all things to yourself,

enlighten our minds and enliven our hearts

to the miracle of Word made flesh.

Remove those things which hinder love of you,

that when you come,

you may find us waiting in awe and wonder

for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Responsive Reading: Mary’s Song**

My soul magnifies the Lord,

**and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.**

For he has regarded the lowliness of his servant.

**For behold, from now on, all generations shall call me blessed.**

For he who is mighty has magnified me;

**and holy is his name.**

And his mercy is on those who fear him

**throughout all generations**.

He has shown strength with his arm;

**he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**

He has put down the mighty from their seat,

**and has exalted the humble and meek.**

He has filled the hungry with good things;

**and the rich he has sent empty away.**

He remembering his mercy has helped his servant Israel.

**As he promised to our forefathers,**

Abraham and his descendants forever

**Prayers**

We bring to God someone whom we have met or remembered

this week, or someone for whom we want to pray . . .

We bring to God someone who is hurting tonight and needs

our prayer . . .

We bring to God those in our lives who do not yet follow Jesus . . .

We bring to God our families, friends, schools, and churches,

that they be kept safe and nourished by his wisdom . . .

We bring ourselves to God, knowing he hears us, knows us,

and loves us . . .

**The Lord’s Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**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 forever. Amen**

**Prayer of John Chrysostom**

Almighty God,

**you have given us grace at this time with one accord**

**to make our common supplications unto you;**

**and you have promised through your well-beloved Son**

**that when two or three are gathered together in his Name**

**you will be in the midst of them:**

**Fulfil now, O Lord, our desires and petitions**

**as may be best for us; granting us in this world**

**knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come**

**life everlasting. Amen.**

**Doxology**

Glory to God,

**whose power, working in us,**

**can do infinitely more**

**than we can ask or imagine.**

**Glory to God from generation to generation,**

**in the Church and in Christ Jesus,**

**forever and ever. Amen**

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