

The Benefice of Chew Valley East

Morning Prayer for Sunday 10 August 2025, The Eighth Sunday After Trinity

*If you wish to join in the service, then the words in **bold** are to be said together.
Please join in with the Psalms and Canticles by reciting each one in its entirety.*

Preparation

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

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

You founded the earth in the beginning
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
and in these last days you have spoken to us
in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us
let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
your Spirit ever renew our lives
and your praises ever be on our lips.

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 our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Psalm 33:12-21

¹²Happy the nation whose God is the Lord ♦
and the people he has chosen for his own.

¹³The Lord looks down from heaven ♦
and beholds all the children of earth.

¹⁴From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze ♦
on all who dwell on the earth.

¹⁵He fashions all the hearts of them ♦
and understands all their works.

¹⁶No king is saved by the might of his host; ♦
no warrior delivered by his great strength.

¹⁷A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; ♦
for all its strength it cannot save.

¹⁸Behold, the eye of the Lord
is upon those who fear him, ♦
on those who wait in hope for his steadfast love,

¹⁹To deliver their soul from death ♦
and to feed them in time of famine.

²⁰Our soul waits longingly for the Lord; ♦
he is our help and our shield.

²¹Indeed, our heart rejoices in him; ♦
in his holy name have we put our trust.

**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.**

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

¹The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.’ ²But Abram said, ‘O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?’ ³And Abram said, ‘You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.’ ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, ‘This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.’ ⁵He brought him outside and said, ‘Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your descendants be.’ ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Canticle

**Splendour and majesty are yours, O God;
you are exalted as head over all.**

¹Blessed are you, God of Israel, for ever and ever, ♦
for yours is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour and the majesty.

²Everything in heaven and on earth is yours; ♦
yours is the kingdom, O Lord,
and you are exalted as head over all.

³Riches and honour come from you ♦
and you rule over all.

⁴In your hand are power and might; ♦
yours it is to give power and strength to all.

⁵And now we give you thanks, our God, ♦
and praise your glorious name.

⁶For all things come from you, ♦
and of your own have we given you.

1 Chronicles 29.10b-13, 14b

**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.**

**Splendour and majesty are yours, O God;
you are exalted as head over all.**

Second Reading: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus said to his disciples, ³²‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

Responsory

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead

And Christ shall give you light.

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

Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead.

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

And Christ shall give you light.

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

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

from Colossians 3

Gospel Canticle: Benedictus

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

¹Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

²He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

³Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all that hate us,

⁴To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

⁵This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

⁶Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.

⁷And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

⁸To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

⁹In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

¹⁰To 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.**

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

Intercessions

Loving God,
so often your coming into our lives
takes us by surprise,
finds us unprepared.

We expect to find you in church
blessing our offering of money;
we do not expect to find you
begging from us on the streets.

We expect to meet you
in bread and wine;
we do not expect to meet you
in the eyes of a starving child.
We expect to find you
in the emotion of prayer and praise;
we do not expect to find you
in the dull pains of everyday living.

Loving God,
we pray for your church,
that we may be a people of faith,
ready to respond to your call.
We pray for the church's work in . . .
We pray for the world,
where faith in you is sorely tested,
and so many long for the dawn of a new day.
We pray for the situation in . . .
We pray for humankind,
that hope might come to those who suffer,
and courage to those who are afraid.
We pray for . . .

Loving God,
fill us with your Holy Spirit,
that we may hold ourselves in readiness
for the coming into our lives of Jesus Christ,
at the time least expected.

In his name we pray. **Amen.**

Collect

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we 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.
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.

Conclusion

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.**

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