

# The Benefice of Chew Valley East

## Morning Prayer for Sunday 26 October 2025, Bible Sunday

*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 119:129-136

<sup>129</sup>Your testimonies are wonderful; ♦  
therefore my soul keeps them.

<sup>130</sup>The opening of your word gives light; ♦  
it gives understanding to the simple.

<sup>131</sup>I open my mouth and draw in my breath, ♦  
as I long for your commandments.

<sup>132</sup>Turn to me and be gracious to me, ♦  
as is your way with those who love your name.

<sup>133</sup>Order my steps by your word, ♦  
and let no wickedness have dominion over me.

<sup>134</sup>Redeem me from earthly oppressors ♦  
so that I may keep your commandments.

<sup>135</sup>Show the light of your countenance upon your servant ♦  
and teach me your statutes.

<sup>136</sup>My eyes run down with streams of water, ♦  
because the wicked do not keep your law.

**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: Romans 15:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. <sup>2</sup>Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour. <sup>3</sup>For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, 'The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.' <sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **Canticle**

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

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

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

<sup>3</sup>Riches and honour come from you ♦  
and you rule over all.

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

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

<sup>6</sup>For 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 4:16-24**

<sup>16</sup>When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup>and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup>‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup>to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

<sup>20</sup>And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup>Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’ <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’ <sup>23</sup>He said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!” And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.”’ <sup>24</sup>And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town.’

### **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.**

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

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

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

<sup>4</sup>To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦  
and to remember his holy covenant.

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

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

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

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

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

<sup>10</sup>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.**

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

## Intercessions

*To the words:*

Saviour, we hear your call.

*Please respond:*

**Help us to follow.**

Lord Jesus, in your being and through your life  
you reveal the glory of God our Father.

We come to you now trusting in your promise  
to hear us when we pray in faith.

Lord Jesus, we pray for your church  
as she proclaims your Gospel of love and truth.

Let all who search the scriptures to find eternal life do so in the light of your  
wisdom and through your loving and compassionate eyes.

Forgive us when we seek to use your word for our own ends and to condemn others.

Give us the grace and openness to hear your message for us today  
and to allow your word to abide in us.

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Lord Jesus, you were sent into this world by God our Father  
but so many in this world refused to believe or to accept you.

Still, today, so many turn their backs on you or are unable to hear your truth.

Let there be a new spirit of yearning for unity and peace in the world.

Let those who claim that God is on their side recognise the truth  
that the love of God is for all peoples and that the Word of God  
cannot belong exclusively to anyone.

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Lord Jesus, you are the living word of God who came to dwell among us.

You know the demands and delights of living in community with others.

Help us who believe in you live our lives in the light of your wisdom  
and to see others through your loving and compassionate eyes.

Help us to recognise and acknowledge you in the lives  
and work of those around us and to be open to the possibilities  
of meeting you in unexpected places.

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Lord Jesus, you brought comfort and healing to all who came to you in distress.

We bring to you now those we know who are suffering any kind of pain.

We pray that you will meet their needs with your love and compassion  
and lighten their darkness with the eternal flame of your Spirit.

Saviour, we hear your call.

**Help us to follow.**

Lord Jesus,  
you are the living word of God but you faced death and overcame it,  
rising to a new and eternal life.  
Strengthen us with faith and hope of life in your eternal kingdom  
where you reign with the Father and the Spirit,  
one God for all people and for all time. **Amen.**

## **Collect**

Merciful God,  
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,  
that trusting in your word  
and obeying your will  
we may enter the unfailing joy of 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.**

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## **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.**