

The Benefice of Chew Valley East

Morning Prayer for Sunday 30 November 2025, Advent I - Patriarchs

*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.

Reveal among us the light of your presence
that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In your tender compassion
the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.
As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
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 122

¹I was glad when they said to me, ♦
‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’

²And now our feet are standing ♦
within your gates, O Jerusalem;

³Jerusalem, built as a city ♦
that is at unity in itself.

⁴Thither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, ♦
as is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

⁵For there are set the thrones of judgement, ♦
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: ♦
‘May they prosper who love you.

⁷‘Peace be within your walls ♦
and tranquillity within your palaces.’

⁸For my kindred and companions’ sake, ♦
I will pray that peace be with you.

⁹For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, ♦
I will seek to do you good.

**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: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come
the mountain of the LORD’s house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.’

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate 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.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Canticle

**Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.**

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, ♦
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.

²They shall see the glory of the Lord, ♦
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weary hands, ♦
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to the anxious, ‘Be strong, fear not,
your God is coming with judgement, ♦
coming with judgement to save you.’

⁵Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, ♦
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶Then shall the lame leap like a hart, ♦
and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy.

⁷For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, ♦
and streams in the desert;

⁸The ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, ♦
with everlasting joy upon their heads.

⁹Joy and gladness shall be theirs, ♦
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35.1, 2b-4a, 4c-6, 10

**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.**

**Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.**

Second Reading: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus spoke to his disciples: ³⁶‘About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the

owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.
⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

Responsory

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.
Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,
for the night is far spent.
Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
for the day is at hand.
Put on the Lord Jesus Christ
and make no provision for the flesh,
for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

from Romans 13

Gospel Canticle: Benedictus

**Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the glory that is coming from God.**

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.**

**Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the glory that is coming from God.**

Intercessions

To the words:

Maranatha:

Please respond:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

We pray for ...

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your kingdom.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

We pray for ...

Before you rulers will stand in silence.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

We pray for ...

Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress,
and set us free to serve you for ever.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

We remember ...

Give us with all the faithful departed
a share in your victory over evil and death.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,

that with all your saints and angels

we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay;
give new courage to your people,
who trust in your love.
By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom
on earth as in heaven,
where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the
light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Awaiting his coming in glory,
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

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

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Text copyright © The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England, 2000-2005.

The Bible readings (other than the psalms) are from The New Revised Standard Version Anglicized Edition, copyright ©1989, 1995 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.