

Sunday August 2

Jesus the risen king draws us from our places of work, our homes and places of isolation, to join with sisters and brothers throughout the world and the whole company of heaven to worship him. He takes our joys, our fears and bids us welcome.

So, let us be still as we come into the presence of God.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

I weave a silence on to my lips
I weave a silence into my mind
I weave a silence within my heart
I close my ears to distractions
I close my eyes to attractions
I close my heart to temptations

We light our candle as a sign of the love of God which brings light to this world.

A candle is lit

The light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

**Glory to the Father who has created us.
Glory to the Son who has redeemed us.
Glory to the Spirit who has empowered us.**

HYMN

Praise to the holiest in the height,

And in the depth be praise;
In all His words most wonderful,
Most sure in all His ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive and should prevail;

And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and His very self,
And essence all-divine.

And in the garden secretly,

And on the cross on high,
Should teach His brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And to the depth be praise;
In all His words most wonderful,
Most sure in all His ways.

CONFESSION

As we come into the presence of God, let us call to mind our sins.

Friend of sinners, you bring hope in our despair.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

Healer of the sick, you give strength in our weakness.

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy.

Destroyer of evil, you bring life to our dying.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

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. **Amen.**

PRAYER FOR TODAY

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.

CANTICLE a song of God's assembled

We have come before the throne of God to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

We have come before God's holy mountain, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God.

Sunday August 2

We have come before countless angels making festival, before the assembly of the firstborn citizens of heaven.

We have come before God, who is judge of all, before the spirits of the just made perfect.

We have come before Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant.

We are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken: so let us give thanks and offer to God acceptable worship,

Full of reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire.

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.

READING

The reader says

The reading is from Matthew 14:13-21

After the reading, the reader says

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

The reading is a fantastic story about food. For once not a great party in the home but a picnic by the lakeside that turned into a feast. It is a story about generosity. The generosity of a boy but that is prompted by the God given spark within for him to respond to need. When he timidly offered up his lunch to the disciples, did he really think that it would make an impact? I wonder. Yet the smallness of his contribution in terms of the need is matched by the ability of God to take something small and make it big. Perhaps that is the key to how we live as Christians. In response to the wonderful generosity of God, we live our lives with

open hands, offering up our contribution, which in the power of God multiplies. It is everyone playing their part.

The boy offered what he had, and in so doing he didn't go without. That is because God is no one's debtor. When we offer our life and our possessions to God, he honours the gift and the giver, blessing us and those around us.

Our generous God calls us to be generous people. It was Jesus' total commitment that took him to the cross and from that flows our life of love and faith. So, we give of our time, talents and treasure, not out of duty, or under duress, but in response to a generous God who has given us so much, that we joyfully give and seek to minister to those around us.

Throughout the lockdown, many people have been contributing towards the life and ministry of the church through electronic giving. Others have been saving their gifts for the day when they return to Sunday worship in a church building. From discussions with treasurers and church wardens I am conscious that in some of our churches there will be a gap between income and the cost of ministry. I am also aware of the generous actions and responses of many to the potential gap. As we move forward into a new phase of church life, I hope that we will continue to respond to our generous God with generous lives. We may feel our contribution is small, indeed it might be but if it's our full, generous and total commitment then God will multiply it to enable his work to continue and he will bless us with even greater blessings than we could possibly imagine.

Sunday August 2

HYMN

Jesus is Lord! Creation's voice proclaims it,
For by His power each tree and flower
Was planned and made.
Jesus is Lord! The universe declares it,
Sun, moon and stars in heaven
Cry, 'Jesus is Lord!'

*Jesus is Lord! Jesus is Lord!
Praise Him with hallelujahs
For Jesus is Lord!*

Jesus is Lord! Yet from His throne eternal
In flesh He came to die in pain
On Calvary's tree.
Jesus is Lord! From Him all life proceeding,
Yet gave His life a ransom
Thus setting us free.

Jesus is Lord! O'er sin the mighty conqueror,
From death He rose, and all His foes
Shall own His name.
Jesus is Lord! God sent His Holy Spirit
To show by works of power
That Jesus is Lord.

David J. Mansell. Copyright © 1982 Word's Spirit of Praise,
Music/Adm. by CopyCare.

INTERCESSIONS

Heavenly Father, we thank you that our lives are beginning to return to normal in the easing of lockdown. We give thanks that we are able to see friends and family again and we pray that people will act unselfishly, following the guidelines given to keep everyone safe. We pray for those areas where restrictions have been reintroduced, for those who are sick and for the front line staff caring for them.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all the people who are struggling to make ends meet: for those who have lost their job; those whose business has failed; the self-employed; all those in the arts unable to perform and craftspeople with no outlet for their creativity. May we do all we can to support local producers and businesses.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We pray for our fragile world. In your generosity you have given mankind beauty and abundance but in our greed and selfishness we destroy what is beautiful and do not share as we should. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to appreciate all that we have. We pray that those in power everywhere will work together to make the world a better place for all.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We pray for people throughout the world living in desperate and, now, disease ridden circumstances. We pray, especially, for Yemen at this time.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We pray for our benefice and we ask for your guidance as we prepare to hold services in church again. As we tentatively move forward may we open our doors with the light and love of Christ in our hearts to bring comfort, gladness and spiritual refreshment to all who enter.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We pray for all those who are sick or suffering in any way, especially those we know. We give thanks for the advancement of science and medicine which gives the hope of better health and mobility to so many. We pray also for those whom the Lord has called and for those who mourn their passing.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

We give thanks Lord and Father for all that you have given us and for the many blessings we enjoy. Help us to take the message given to us today into our daily lives as we think about what it means to follow Christ. We pray that you will help us to give freely of what we have so that we may serve you and each other in a spirit of willing generosity.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our prayer**

Sunday August 2

Rejoicing in God's new creation, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

HYMN

Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue,
you only, Lord, resolved to know
in all I think or speak or do.

The task your wisdom has assigned
here let me cheerfully fulfill;
in all my work your presence find,
and prove your good and perfect will.

You may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost secrets view,
and labour on at your command
and offer all my work to you.

Help me to bear your easy yoke,
in ev'ry moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look
and hasten to that glorious day.

Then with delight may I employ
all that your bounteous grace has given,
and run my earthly course with joy,
and closely walk with you in heaven.

Orebeck Benefice Pilgrim's Prayer is a sign
of our unity in Christ and our pilgrimage
together as individuals and churches
**Open our hearts to your love, Father God, as
we journey with you;**

**Renew us each day, as we dwell in your
presence.**

Encourage us when we feel downtrodden,

Bring us comfort when we are sad.

**Enliven us so that we may always be ready to
serve You, and**

Care for others in the strength of God's love.

**Kindle, we pray, all that works towards the
coming of your kingdom. Amen**

THE BLESSING

*For those who are unable to join in this service
via Zoom, you may want to pray the words of
the grace*

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

May God the Father, by whose glory Christ was
raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk
with him in his risen life;

May Jesus the risen Lord fill you with his love
and peace for the coming days

And may the Holy Spirit equip you for every
good work;

and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father,
and the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you
and all those you love, and evermore. Amen.

Tea, coffee and biscuits may be served!

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of
England, is copyright © [The Archbishops' Council](#) 2000.

Some material taken from

The Open Gate copyright © David Adam

Hymns reproduced under CCLI Licence 973325