

The Order of Service for Home Worship

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



Hymn 1. Let saints on earth in concert sing.

1. Let saints on earth in concert sing
With those whose work is done;
For all the servants of our King
In heaven and earth are one.
2. One family, we dwell with him,
One Church, above, beneath;
Though now divided by the stream,
The narrow stream of death.
3. The people of the living God,
To his command we bow:
Part of the host have crossed the flood,
And part are crossing now.
4. E'en now to their eternal home
There pass some spirit's blessed;
While others to the margin come,
Waiting their call to rest.
5. Jesu, be thou our constant guide;
Then, when the word is giv'n.
Bid Jordan's narrow stream divide,
And bring us safe to heaven.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace is our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you show us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us into life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;
Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

Collect: Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Daniel

7. 1-3, 15-18

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: 'As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom for ever—for ever and ever.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 149 Response: Sing, O sing to the Lord a new song. Praise the Lord.

Let the faithful exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their couches.
Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands, (R)

to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishment on the peoples,
to bind their kings with fetters
and their nobles with chains of iron,
to execute on them the judgement decreed.
This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord! (R)

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Ephesians 1. 11-23

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

"Blessed are you who are poor," says the Lord, "for yours is the kingdom of heaven."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Luke

6. 20-31

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. 'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Meditation *Today we celebrate All Saints Sunday, the first Sunday of the Kingdom season, the last season of the Churches year. Over the next four weeks we celebrate the Kingship of Christ over creation and over our own lives. We give thanks that he has called us to live as members of his family the Communion of Saints, the family of God in heaven and on earth united in one great fellowship. Today we give thanks to God for those saints who have gone before us, those men and women who lived the lives of faithful disciples, who helped to build the Church on earth and who have now received the crown of life and who continue to pray for us in heaven. Some saints lived such illustrious lives that they are remembered with their own day throughout the year. Today we remember also those saints, countless men and women whose names are known only to God. We all know such saints, priests, Sunday School teachers, family members, friends, neighbours and strangers who have showed kindness to us. People who have helped encourage us along the road of faith. People in whose company we find ourselves drawing closer to God. These are the saints we honour today. All of these men and women have helped to reveal the love of God to a waiting world. The love of God revealed to us by Jesus in our Gospel reading today. He calls us by name to come to him, to live in the light of his love and to let the light of his love shine through us into the lives of those around us. The saints we honour today answered this call and we must do the same. We, in our time, are called to play*

our part as full members of the Communion of Saints and to follow the example of those holy men and women who have gone before us. For they understood the truth of those words from the book of Wisdom. "Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect." By placing our trust in him we will understand the truth of his loves for us, in being faithful we will in our time take our place with him and all the saints in the glory of heaven forever. Amen.

Intercessions:

In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own parish; that the Church may follow the example of all the saints in proclaiming the risen Lord.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; that the leaders of the world, led by the Holy Spirit, may be united in purpose in securing a sustainable, just and peaceful future for all your people.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; may we be always faithful to our baptismal promises.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our parish intercession books; may they be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and consoled with the love of Christ.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they share the eternal glory of heaven in the company of all the saints.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who 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.**

The Peace:

Jesus said, "Peace I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The peace of God which is beyond all understanding guard your hearts in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Jerusalem the Golden.

1. Jerusalem the golden, with milk and honey blest,
Beneath thy contemplation sink heart and voice opprest.
I know not, O I know not, what social joys are there,
What radiancy of glory, what light beyond compare.
2. They stand, those halls of Sion, conjubilant with song,
And bright with many an angel, and all the martyr throng;
The Prince is ever in them, the daylight is serene,
The pastures of the blessed are decked in glorious sheen.
3. There is the throne of David, and there, from care released,
The song of them that triumph, the shout of them that feast;
And they who, with their Leader, have conquered in the fight,
For ever and for ever are clad in robes of white.
4. O sweet and blessed country, shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country, shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes! The Lord shall be thy part:
His only, his for ever, Thou shalt be, and thou art!