**Daily Prayer – December 18 - 23 2023**

Season: **Advent**

Festivals this week: None

**Click here to go to Evening Prayer**

**Morning Prayer**

***Opening prayer***

**God of our days and years**

**We set this time apart for you.**

**Form us in the likeness of Christ**

**So that our lives may glorify you.**

**Amen**

**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 glory and praise 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.**

***Prayer of Preparation***

**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***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Monday**  | **Tuesday**  | **Wednesday** | **Thursday**  | **Friday**  | **Saturday**  |
| Ps. 40Isaiah 38:1-8; 21-22Matthew 16:13-end | Ps. 144Isaiah 38:9-20Matthew 17:1-13 | Ps. 46Isaiah 39Matthew 17:14-21 | Ps. 121Zephaniah 1:1-2:3Matthew 17:22-end | Ps. 124Zephaniah 3:1-13Matthew 18:1-20 | Ps. 130Zephaniah 3:14-endMatthew 18:21-end |

*The appointed Psalm of the day is read*

**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**

*The appointed Old Testament reading for the day*

**This is the word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

*The appointed New Testament reading for the day*

**This is the word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

**Now is the 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.**

***Prayers of Intercession***

Pray for:

* The day and its tasks
* The world and its needs
* The Church and her life.

You may wish to include these concerns in your prayers during the week:

* The Church, that she may be ready for the coming of Christ
* The leaders of the Church
* The nations, that they may be subject to the rule of God
* Those who are working for justice in the world
* The broken, that they may find God’s healing.

And especially at this time,

For the people of Ukraine:

**God of peace and justice,**

**We pray for the people of Ukraine today.**

**We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.**

**We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,**

**that your Spirit of comfort**

**would draw near to them.**

**We pray for those with power**

**over war or peace, for wisdom,**

**discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.**

**Above all, we pray for all your precious children,**

**at risk and in fear,**

**that you would hold and protect them.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus,**

**Prince of Peace.**

**Amen**

For the people of the Holy land:

**God of compassion and justice,**

**We cry out to yourfor all who suffer in the Holy Land today.**

**For your precious children, Israelis and Palestinians,**

**traumatised and in fear for their lives;**

**Lord have mercy.**

**For the families of the bereaved,**

**for those who have seen images they will never forget,**

**for those anxiously waiting for news,**

**despairing with each passing day;**

**Lord have mercy.**

**For young men and women, heading into combat,**

**bearing the burden of what others have done**

**and what they will be asked to do,**

**Lord have mercy.**

**For civilians in Israel, Gaza and the West Bank,**

**that they would be protected,**

**and that every life would count,**

**and be cherished and remembered.**

**Lord have mercy.**

**For the wounded and those facing a lifetime of scars,**

**for those desperately seeking medical treatment where there is none,**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**For medical and emergency personnel,**

**risking their own lives to save those of others,**

**Lord have mercy.**

**For those who cannot see anything but rage and violence,**

**that you would surprise them with mercy,**

**and turn their hearts towards kindness for their fellow human beings;**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**For people of peace,**

**whose imagination is large enough**

**to conceive of a different way,**

**that they may speak and act and be heard,**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Mighty and caring God,**

**you promised that one day,**

**swords will be beaten into ploughshares;**

**Meet us in our distress,**

**and bring peace upon this troubled land.**

**Amen.**

**Lord in your mercy**

**Hear our prayer**

***Collect for the week***

**O Lord Jesus Christ,**

**who at your first coming sent your messenger**

**to prepare your way before you:**

**grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries**

**may likewise so prepare and make ready your way**

**by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,**

**that at your second coming to judge the world**

**we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;**

**for you are alive and reign with the Father**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen**

***The 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.**

***Final Prayer***

**May the Lord, when he comes,**

**find us watching and waiting.**

**Amen**

**Let us bless the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**Evening Prayer**

***Opening Prayer***

**From the rising of the sun to its setting**

**Your glory is proclaimed in all the world.**

**Your faithful servants bless you,**

**They make known the glory of your kingdom.**

**Blessed are you, Sovereign God,**

**our light and our salvation,**

**to you be glory and praise for ever.**

**Now, as darkness is falling,**

**wash away our transgressions,**

**cleanse us by your refining fire**

**and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.**

**By the light of Christ,**

**dispel the darkness of our hearts**

**and make us ready to enter your kingdom,**

**where songs of praise for ever sound.**

**Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:**

**Blessed be God for ever.**

**That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,**

**let us pray with one heart and mind.**

***Silence is kept.***

**As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,**

**so may your mercy come down upon us**

**to cleanse our hearts**

**and set us free to sing your praise**

**now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

***A period of silence for reflection on the past day follows***

***Penitence***

**Most merciful God,**

**We confess to you,**

**Before the whole company of heaven and one another,**

**That we have sinned in thought, word and deed**

**And in what we have failed to do.**

**Forgive us our sins,**

**Heal us by your Spirit**

**And raise us to new life in Christ.**

**Amen**

**O God, make speed to save us,**

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

***The Word of God***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| Ps. 261 Thessalonians 5:1-11 | Ps. 571 Thess 5:12-end | Ps. 42 Thess 1 | Ps. 842 Thess 2 | Ps. 482 Thess 3 | Ps. 89:1-37Jude |

*The appointed Psalm of the day is read*

**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**

*The appointed New Testament reading for the day*

**This is the word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

**Lord you will guide me with your counsel**

**and afterwards receive me with glory.**

**For I am always with you;**

**You hold me by my right hand.**

**And afterwards receive me with glory.**

**Glory to the Father and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit.**

**Lord, you will guide me with your counsel**

**and afterwards receive me with glory.**

***Prayers of Intercession***

Pray for:

* For peace
* For individuals and their needs.

You may wish to include these concerns in your prayers during the week:

* The Church, that she may be ready for the coming of Christ
* The leaders of the Church
* The nations, that they may be subject to the rule of God
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And especially at this time, for the people of Ukraine:

**God of peace and justice,**

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**Give us today our daily bread.**

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**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.**

***The Conclusion***

**In peace we will lie down and sleep;**

**for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.**

**Abide with us, Lord Jesus,**

**For the night is at hand the day is now past.**

**As the night watch looks for the morning,**

**so do we look for you, O Christ.**

**May the living waters of Christ cleanse us,**

**may the Spirit descend upon us,**

**and the blessing of God be with us**

**this night and always.**

**Amen**