Preparing for Worship

Welcome to this audio broadcast service from Christ Church. As we come into God’s presence, dedicating our time to worship, we hear God’s promise to come to meet us. As the world’s needs continue to loom so large, our response as the people of God is to continue to worship, to praise God, and to pray for the healing of the world and its people.

Eucharist this morning is celebrated by our new Sub Dean, the Reverend Richard Peers, who was licensed and installed yesterday evening in a service in the cathedral. We are delighted to have him as part of our community and it is right that his first act as Sub Dean is to lead us in worship.

Our preacher is the Very Revd Professor Martyn Percy, the Dean. Music has been recorded by our Lay Clerks in their homes, by the Cathedral Singers, and by the Organist. Responses are made by voices from around the Cathedral community.

Entering into worship through audio broadcast is more familiar to some of us than to others. If this is new to you, try to actively share in the service, not just have it on in the background; and join in the words in bold. Find a comfortable position that helps you to pray, and to receive the love of God in your heart. As we listen, we are united in worship and prayer despite the distance between us. Please continue to pray for one another, as we at Christ Church continue to pray for you.

May God bless you as we worship together.

You can find our Sunday worship, alongside other resources for worshipping at home, at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/onlineworship

Music before the service

Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend (BWV 632) recorded by the Organist
J S Bach

Steven Grahl
The Gathering

President  In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All  Amen.

President  The Lord be with you
All  and also with you.

The President welcomes the congregation.

Confession

You may like to adopt a prayer posture such as sitting with your head bowed, as we remember our brokenness and call to mind our sins.

God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ
to save us from our sins,
to be our advocate in heaven,
and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
firmly resolved to keep God’s commandments
and to live in love and peace with all.

All  Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
for us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.
Kyrie

Kyrie, eleison.  Lord, have mercy.
Christe, eleison.  Christ, have mercy.
Kyrie, eleison.  Lord, have mercy.

Absolution

President  Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All  Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria in excelsis Deo.  Glory to God in the highest,
Et in terra pax  and peace to his people on earth.
hominibus bonae voluntatis.

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,  Lord God, heavenly King,
adoramus te, glorificamus te.  almighty God and Father,
Gratias agimus tibi  we worship you, we give you thanks,
propter magnam gloriam tuam,  we praise you for your glory.
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Deus Pater omnipotens.

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe,  Lord God, Lamb of God,
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  you take away the sin of the world:
Filius Patris,  have mercy on us;
qui tollis peccata mundi,  you are seated
miserer nobis.  at the right hand of the Father:
Qui tollis peccata mundi,  receive our prayer.
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus;  
tu solus Dominus;  
tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,  
cum Sancto Spiritu  
in gloria Dei Patris.  
Amen.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

The Collect

President  Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

President  Almighty God,  
who called your Church to bear witness  
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:  
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,  
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;  
through him who was lifted up on the cross,  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

All  Amen.
First Reading
Romans 13:8–end (NRSV)
read by Karen Gadd

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet’; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader  This is the word of the Lord.
All       Thanks be to God.
Gospel Reading  
Matthew 18:15–20 (NRSV)  
read by the Succentor

Deacon  Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
All  Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples, ‘If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.’

Deacon  This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All  Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection  
The Dean

You can find the text of the reflection at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/onlineworship.

After the reflection, we keep silence together for a few moments before affirming our faith together in the words of the Creed – words which have been said across the world for over fifteen hundred years in times of sorrow and of joy.
All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession  
led by Canon Ward

Minister    Let us pray.

You may like to adopt a prayer posture with your hands open and lifted up to God as we hold out all the prayers of our hearts to him.

Minister    Lord, in your mercy
All        hear our prayer.

The prayers end with:

Minister    Merciful Father,
All        accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.
The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President Christ is our peace.
He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

President The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

We know that Christians have shared a sign of peace since the very earliest days of the Church. In these times, it may seem strange to ‘share the Peace.’ But peace is from the heart and from God. God’s peace in the Spirit moves among us and unites us, physically distanced yet one in the Body of Christ.
O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart!

There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze,
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus, confirm my heart’s desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up the gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat;
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.

WORDS: Leviticus 6:13, Charles Wesley (1707–88)
MUSIC: Hereford, S S Wesley (1810–76)

Preparation of the Table

President
Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
All things come from you,
and of your own do we give you.
The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

President Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

President It is indeed right,
it is our duty and our joy,
at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise,
holy Father, heavenly King,
almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For he is your living Word;
through him you have created all things from the beginning,
and formed us in your own image.

Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin,
giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross;
you raised him from the dead
and exalted him to your right hand on high.

Through him you have sent upon us
your holy and life-giving Spirit,
and made us a people for your own possession.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and singing::
Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth:
pleni sunt cœli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.

Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

President

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.
Deacon  
Great is the mystery of faith.

All  
**Christ has died.**
**Christ is risen.**
**Christ will come again.**

President  
Accept through him, our great high priest,
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts
in the presence of your divine majesty,
renew us by your Spirit,
inspire us with your love
and unite us in the body of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,
we worship you, Father almighty,
in songs of everlasting praise:

All  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power**
be yours for ever and ever.
Amen.
The Lord’s Prayer

_in times of hope, in times of trouble, in times of sorrow, in times of praise, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The President breaks the consecrated bread.

All

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.
Invitation to Communion

President

Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.
Blessed be God for ever.

Wherever we are, Jesus comes to meet us. God promises that, even when we are unable to receive bread and wine physically, by the power of the Holy Spirit we will still be fed with the body and blood of Jesus, with the spiritual food and drink that can strengthen and sustain us through all the pain, trouble and difficulty we may face. So now, Jesus invites us to receive him in our hearts by faith; to unite our prayers and our wills with his; and to rest in his perfect and eternal love.

There are no special words or prayers for this. All the Church has ever thought necessary is true desire, lively faith and genuine love. So you are invited to come honestly before God the way you know how. You may like to close your eyes, or to look at a picture; to pause the recording, or to listen to the music; to keep silence, or to pray one of the following prayers:

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of thy Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to thee my soul and body with the earnest wish that they may always be united to thee. And since I can not now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate thee from me. May I live and die in thy love. Amen.

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock. You wait for me and only I can let you in. I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence. Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood, that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.
As we rest in the presence of Christ all around us, the Agnus Dei is sung.

Agnus Dei

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Prayer after Communion

President

Let us pray.

Lord,
you give yourself to us
and we have received your life.
By the power of your Spirit
keep us always in your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.
The Dismissal

Blessing

President

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All

Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ.

All

Thanks be to God.

Music after the service

Vivace (Mvt. I, Sonata 6, BWV 530) recorded by the Organist
J S Bach

Steven Grahl
During these difficult times, please be assured that the prayers of the clergy and people of Christ Church continue. Please let us know if we can pray for you, or if you need our support. You are warmly invited to continue to participate in our community worship, prayer and spiritual life, whether you are a longstanding member of our congregations or new to us. You can find resources for prayer and contact details at:

www.chch.ox.ac.uk/onlineworship
www.chch.ox.ac.uk/cathedralblog
@chchcathedralox

Online worship resources from Christ Church Cathedral

The Cathedral blog contains an archive of sermons and services, alongside a daily reflection on a Psalm and a weekly reflection on a piece of music. On Sundays, there is a weekly recorded service available at 9am and an additional standalone sermon by one of the canons, on the readings of the day, available at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/onlineworship where you can also download a booklet of prayers for use at home, a recording of Compline, and other resources.
Prayer for the Week

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessed Frideswide, pray for us. May all the saints pray for us.