

St Luke's Morning prayers together 22nd March 2020

Introduction, welcome and prayer

Music – we hear Kyrie by Greg Gilpin – the words of this are sung in Greek – but Kyrie eleison means ‘Lord have mercy’ and that felt like a good place for us to start.

We pray together:

All **Almighty God**
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Introduction to confession (followed by a pause for recollection)

We pray together:

All **Father eternal, giver of light and grace,**
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought,
in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love,
and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed,
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen

DD says 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. **Amen.**

The Collect or prayer for the week

Merciful Lord,
you know our struggle to serve you:
when sin spoils our lives
and overshadows our hearts,
come to our aid
and turn us back to you again;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading from the bible Psalm 23

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
- 3 he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk
through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

Thoughts from the reading (DD)

Music – we hear/sing The Lord's my shepherd sung to the tune Crimond.

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again; and me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forever more my dwelling place shall be.

Prayers (including the Lord's Prayer)

Music – We hear/sing In Christ alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Blessing