

in the Diocese of Birmingham

Who's in charge?





Caravaggio 1605

Crown Jewels used in yesterday's coronation

Sunday 7th May 2023, following the Coronation of King Charles III

Preparation

You may wish to mark your time of worship by arranging a table with a cloth, a candle and your Bible, or anything, such as flowers, that makes it a special reflective space.

Music: click on the links to hear and join in the music. Click stop at the end of each.

HYMN Christ is the King! O friends rejoice

1. Christ is the King! O friends rejoice; brothers and sisters, with one voice make the world know he is your choice. *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

2. O magnify the Lord, and raise

anthems of joy and holy praise for Christ's brave saints of ancient days.

3. O Christian women, Christian men, all the world over, seek again the Way disciples followed then.

4. Christ through all ages is the same: place the same hope in his great name, with the same faith his Word proclaim.

5. Let love's unconquerable might your scattered companies unite in service to the Lord of light.

6. So shall God's will on earth be done, new lamps be lit, new tasks begun, and the whole Church at last be one.

(words: George Kennedy Allen Bell alt; music: Melody from Melchior Vulpius's 'Gesangbuch' [1609])

At home, we pause to remember those gathered in Church who, in turn remember us.

We take this time, united in Christ, to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God's holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may find new ways to serve God.

Prayers of Penitence

We confess:

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world and knows our every word and deed. Let us then open ourselves to the Lord and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate: Lord, have mercy.

You are loving to all and your mercy is over all your creation: Christ, have mercy.

Your faithful servants bless your name and speak of the glory of your kingdom: Lord, have mercy.

We keep silence, then pray:

May almighty God who forgives all who truly repent have mercy upon us, pardon us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness and keep us in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Word of God

NEW TESTAMAENT READING Ephesians 3.14-21:

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 20 If you are able, you might stand to read this psalm aloud.

May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble, the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

Send you help from his sanctuary and strengthen you out of Zion;

Remember all your offerings and accept your burnt sacrifice;

Grant you your heart's desire and fulfil all your mind.

May we rejoice in your salvation and triumph in the name of our God; may the Lord perform all your petitions.

Now I know that the Lord will save his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven, with the mighty strength of his right hand.

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses, but we will call only on the name of the Lord our God.

They are brought down and fallen, but we are risen and stand upright.

O Lord, save the king and answer us when we call upon you.

All 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.

GOSPEL READING Luke 22.24-30

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

APOSTLES' CREED

We stand and turn to look in the direction of Church, to emphasise our gathering around a precious, shared story:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



If you wish, pray THE 1953 Coronation Collect

O God, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love: Grant unto thy servant CHARLES, our King, the Spirit of wisdom and government, that being devoted unto thee with his whole heart, he may so wisely govern, that in his time thy Church may be in safety, and Christian devotion may continue in peace; that so persevering in good works unto the end, he may by thy mercy come to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

LORD'S PRAYER

We pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: Our Father in heaven...

FOR REFLECTION

Hold the two above images of kinship before you. If you want to explore the meaning of the crown jewels, here is a link you can reflectively follow. <u>The Crown Jewels - London - Historic Royal Palaces</u> Dwell on the foolishness or wisdom embodied in each image. Consider what makes good leadership for you.

Then spend time considering what it is to be led, and what it is for a people to take responsibility for their own way of life, especially in a democracy. It is possible to lead well or badly. It is also possible to *be people led*, well or badly.

Then, holding the image of Christ as King on the day of his parodied coronation with a crown of thorns, turn your reflections into prayers for leaders of all kinds and for all of us as people led.

PRAYERS (adapted for use at home) offered for us by the Church of England.

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, we pray to you, Father. As we pray on the occasion of the coronation of King Charles, we pray that you will bless him richly in the years ahead. Guide him and all the members of the Royal Family with your peaceable wisdom. Faithful God, fill them with your hope and joy.

We pray for all who serve our local community. May they be ambassadors of goodwill, building friendships and cooperation. Faithful God, fill them with your hope and joy.

We ask your blessing on our homes and families, on our schools, children and young people. May our neighbourhoods be places of hospitality, peace and trust. Faithful God, fill them with your hope and joy.

We pray for older people in our community, and especially the isolated and housebound, that they may be known, honoured and cherished. Faithful God, fill them with your hope and joy. We commend to your care the sick and vulnerable, and any who despair. May the joy of our nation's celebration renew them in heart and mind. Faithful God fill them with your hope and joy. We pray for all who seek you in prayer, whether in times of joy or sorrow, make your self known in healing and hope. Transform our lives by your grace, and as you have called us to your service, make us worthy of our calling. Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN I, the Lord of sea and sky

 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,I have borne my people's pain.I have wept for love of them.They turn away.I will break their hearts of stone,give them hearts for love alone.I will speak my word to them.Whom shall I send?

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,I will tend the poor and lame.I will set a feast for them.My hand will save.Finest bread I will providetill their hearts be satisfied.I will give my life to them.Whom shall I send?

(words & music: Dan Schutte, based on Isaiah 6)

Imagining all whom we miss, we pray for each other:

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

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England

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