

*Intercessions may end with*

**Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Jesus taught us to call God our Father,  
so in faith and trust 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.**

**Hymn: 401 ON JORDAN'S BANK**

Closing Prayers

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The Lord is the strength of my life.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us,  
scatter the darkness from before our path,  
and make us ready to meet him when he comes in glory;  
and the blessing ...

**Hymn: 532 WE HAVE A GOSPEL TO PROCLAIM**



**Morning Worship - 11th December 2022**

**Hymn: 98 COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS**

Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you.  
**and also with you**

Jesus said, 'No one more important than John the Baptist has ever  
been born; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'  
**Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!**

*The third candle is lit and this response is used*

Jesus is the light of the world.  
**A light no darkness can ever put out.**

*We sing: (Tune: 33 Angels voices ever singing)*

**Advent candles tell their story  
as we watch and pray,  
longing for the Day of Glory,  
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.  
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness  
changed for gladness  
on that Day.**

**John the Baptist, by his preaching  
and by water poured,  
brought to those who heard his teaching  
news of hope restored:  
'Keep your vision strong and steady,  
and be ready  
for the Lord.'**

## Confession and Absolution

A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.' So let us listen, and return to the Lord in penitence and faith.

*We keep silence to recall our need for God's forgiveness.*

**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,  
forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you  
in newness of life to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

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

## The Collect of the Day

**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.**

## Readings - Colin Burnie

Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 12:15-21

*After each reading we use these words:*

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

## **Sermon**

### ***Hymn: 148 THE SERVANT KING***

## Affirmation of Faith

We say together in faith:

**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.**

## The Intercessions - David Clapton

*Prayers of Intercession using this or another response*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**