

ALL SOULS'

SERVICE of
COMMEMORATION
and
THANKSGIVING



Lord Jesus Christ,

In you alone we find our strength and salvation.

You hold us firm in times of trouble, and comfort us in need.

Teach us to serve you; to give and not count the cost;

to fight and not heed the wounds;

to toil and not seek for rest.

To labour and not to ask for any reward,

save that of knowing we live out our lives through you.

You are our Maker, our Lover and our Keeper.

Teach us to believe that by your grace all shall be well,

and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.

Amen.

Sister Julian of Norwich

'And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love.

Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow,

not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.

No power in the sky above or in the earth below.

Indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

Romans 8: 38-39.

WELCOME

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: We meet this morning to remember our loved ones with thanksgiving, to renew our trust and confidence in Christ, and to pray that together we may be one in him, through whom we offer our praise to the Father.

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my salvation

All: **He is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.**

Leader: Show us your mercy, O Lord:

All: **And grant us your peace.**

Leader: For with you is the well of life:

All: **And in your light shall we see light.**

HYMN: *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the ancient of days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord our God, lover of souls
you uphold us in life and sustain us in death
to you be glory and praise for ever.
For the darkness of this age is passing away
as Christ the bright and morning star
offers to us all eternal life.
As you give light to those in darkness
who walk in the shadow of death,
so remember in your kingdom your faithful servants,
that death may be for them the gate to life
and to unending fellowship with you;
where with them you live in love now and forever.

***All:* Amen.**

READING: Philippians 2: 1-4

HYMN: *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises
I will ever give to thee.**

READING: Luke 14: 12-14

Leader: Come among us, O God,
You who cast the planets into space
and cradle the sparrow in her nest

***All:* Come, O God, and meet us here**

Leader: Come among us, O God,
You who bless the poor and the broken
and stand alongside both weak and strong

***All:* Come, O God, and meet us here**

Leader: Come among us, O God,
You who dance in the silence
and shine in the darkness.

***All:* Come, O God, and meet us here.**

READING OF LOVED ONES' NAMES:

A candle will be lit at the Altar and the names of all those whom we remember will now be read as we listen to the following hymn:

HYMN: *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Abide with me; fast falls the eventide:
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee
help of the helpless, O abide with me.**

Reading of names

**Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see:
O thou who changest not, abide with me.**

Reading of names

**I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with
me.**

Reading of names

**I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.**

Reading of names

**Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the
skies:
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain
shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.**

H. F. Lyte

PRAYERS:

Leader: We remember before God those whom we love, and a candle symbolises the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

Leader: Hear us, O merciful Father, as we remember in love all those whom we place in your hands. Enfold them in the arms of your mercy, in the blessed rest of everlasting Peace, and in the glorious company of the saints in light.

All: **Amen.**

Leader: All our laughter, all our sadness

All: **Safe now in God's hands**

Leader: All our anger, all our gladness

All: **Safe now in God's hands**

Leader: Those we remember, those we love

All: **Safe now in God's hands**

Leader: What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor human heart conceived, God has prepared for those who love him.

All: **God of all consolation,
in your unending love and mercy
you turn the darkness of death
into the dawn of new life.**

**Show compassion to your people in their sorrow,
be our refuge and our strength
to lift us from the darkness of grief
to the peace and light of your presence.
Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ,
after dying for us, conquered death,
and by rising again, restored life.**

**May we then go forward eagerly to meet him,
and after our life on earth
be reunited with our brothers and sisters
where every tear will be wiped away.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Leader: Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
The power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

HYMN: *Congregation to listen as the hymn tune is played*

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

***Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast
won.***

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the Church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting:**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through thy
deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above:**

*E.L. Budry (1854-1932)
tr. R.B. Hoyle (1875-1939)*

THE BLESSING:

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
Amen.

*The Offertory plate is available for those who wish to make
a donation to the Church and the work it does within the
community.*

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