

PRAYER IN THE HOME

FOR THE SUNDAYS BEFORE ADVENT

GATHERING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

God is spirit

Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

The Lord is with us.

Let us praise his name together.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

CONFESSION

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,

though we have rebelled against him.

Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask his mercy

By confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

We confess to you our selfishness and lack of love:

fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you our fear and failure in sharing our faith:

fill us with your Spirit.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you our stubbornness and lack of trust:

fill us with your Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PSALM

BIBLE READING

PROFESSION OF 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.

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray to the Lord, remembering all those in need:

For our church congregations,
that they will renew a sense of community
and continue to support others:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the isolated and housebound,
the sick and the lonely,
that they will not feel forgotten;
for those who have lost confidence:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For our homes and families,
our schools and young people,
that priority will be given to their education;

for all who worry about their future:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For a blessing on our local community,
for those seeking employment,
and for those who feel trapped in low-paid jobs:
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

In this season of remembrance, we pray
for all those who mourn the loss of loved ones,
whether recent bereavements or many years ago.
Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Merciful Father:

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

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so 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.**

May God give to you and to all those you love
his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy,
in this world and the next.

Amen.