

## **The Anglican Parish of Christ Church, Bolton**

9 a.m. Weekday Morning Prayers

### **Opening Sentences**

Lord, open our lips, **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

(Except in Lent) **Alleluia!**

***One of the following antiphons may be said before and after the Invitatory psalm.***

1. God rules over all the earth: **O come, let us worship.**

2 The Lord is in his holy temple: **O come, let us worship.**

3 The Lord is our refuge and strength: **O come, let us worship.**

4 The Lord is our light and our life: **O come, let us worship.**

### **Invitatory**

***One or two of the following canticles may be said together:***

#### ***Venite~ Psalm 95.1-7***

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \* let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \* and a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \* and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his for he made it, \* and his hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \* and kneel before the Lord our maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

\* Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice! J

### ***Jubilate ~Psalm 100***

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \* serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \* he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \* give thanks to him and call upon his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \* and his faithfulness endures from age to age

### ***Canticle 2 ~ Song of Peace ~ Isaiah 2.2-5***

In the days to come \* the mountain of the house of the Lord shall tower as the highest of mountains \* and be raised above the hills.

There shall all the nations flow; \* many peoples shall come and say, "Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, \* to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways \* that we may walk in his paths.

For the law shall go out from Zion, \* from Jerusalem the word of the Lord.

He shall judge between the nations \* and decide for many peoples.

They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, \* their spears into pruning-knives; nation shall not lift sword against nation; \* they shall never train for war again.

O people of Jacob, come, \* let us walk in the light of the Lord.

### ***Canticle 3 ~ Song of Thanksgiving ~ Isaiah 12.2-6***

Surely, it is God who saves me; \* I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, \* and he will be my Saviour.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \* from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, \* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make his deeds known among the peoples; \* see that they remember that his name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*

and this is known in all the world. Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel

### ***Canticle 4 ~ Song of Good News ~ Isaiah 40.9-11***

Go up to a high mountain, \* O Zion, herald of joy; lift up your voice in strength, \* Jerusalem, herald of joy; Lift it up, fear not; \* say to the cities of Judah: "Behold your God! Behold, the Lord comes in might, \* comes to rule with his mighty arm; behold, his reward is with him, \* his recompense before him. Like a shepherd will

he feed his flock, \* gathering the lambs in his arms; he will hold them to his breast \* and gently lead those with young.”

### ***Canticle 6 ~ Seek the Lord ~ Isaiah 55.6–11***

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \* call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \* and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \* and to our God, for  
he will richly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \* nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \* so are my ways higher than your  
ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as rain and snow fall from the heavens \* and return not again, but water the  
earth, Bringing forth life and giving growth, \* seed for sowing and bread for  
eating,

So is my word that goes forth from my mouth; \* it will not return to me empty;  
But it will accomplish that which I have purposed, \* and prosper in that for which  
I sent it

### ***Canticle 9 ~ A Song from Ezekiel ~ Ezekiel 36.24–28***

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from every country, and bring  
you home to your own land.

I will pour clean water upon you, purify you from all defilement, and cleanse you  
from all your idols.

A new heart I will give you, and put a new spirit within you; I will take from your  
body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

I will put my spirit within you, make you walk in my ways and observe my  
decrees.

You shall dwell in the land I gave to your forebears; you shall be my people and I  
will be your God

### ***Canticle 12 ~ The Bread of Heaven ~ Wisdom 16.20–21, 26***

You gave your people angels’ food \* and sent them bread from heaven,  
ready to eat, though they did no work, \* rich in delights, and suiting every taste.  
The food which you gave \* showed your sweetness toward your children.  
It served the desire of those who ate, \* was changed to the flavour each one  
wished; That the children you love might learn, O God, \*

that not by various crops are they fed, but it is your word which sustains \* all those who trust in you.

### ***Canticle 21 ~ God's Plan of Salvation ~ Ephesians 1.3-7***

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, \* who has blessed us in Christ with all the spiritual blessings of heaven.

God chose us in Christ before the world was made \* to be holy and blameless, and to live by his love in his presence.

God planned through Jesus Christ \* to bring us to himself as his children, that we might praise the glory of his grace, \* his free gift to us in the Beloved.

In Christ we gain redemption; through his blood our sins are forgiven. \* How rich is the grace of God!

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

***Either one or two lessons from Scripture will be read. The Psalm of the day will be read between the two readings.***

### **Reflection**

***Affirmation of Faith ~ The Apostles' Creed or Hear, O Israel may be said together.***

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

### **Hear, O Israel**

**Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.  
Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and  
the great commandment.  
The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no  
commandment greater than these.**

### **Intercessions and Thanksgiving**

***The prayers will end with a Collect which may be chosen from one  
of the following or elsewhere:***

#### **1 A Prayer for Strength**

**Eternal God, you create us by your power and redeem us by your  
love. Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give  
ourselves today in love and service to one another and to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **2 A Prayer for Guidance**

**Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being.  
Guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and  
occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember  
that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. Amen.**

#### **3 A Prayer for Peace**

**O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is  
eternal life, to serve you is perfect freedom. Defend us your**

**servants from the assaults of our enemies, that we may trust in your defence, and not fear the power of any adversaries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **4 A Prayer for Guidance**

**Creator of the universe, the light of your glory shines in the darkness of our lives. Make us attentive to your presence, prompt to serve you, and ever eager to follow in the steps of the one who is our true light, Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.**

#### **5 A Prayer for Grace and Faith**

**Lord God, the well-spring of life, pour into our hearts the living water of your grace. By your light we see light. Increase our faith, and grant that we may walk in the brightness of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **6 A Prayer for Grace**

**Lord God, almighty and everlasting One, you have brought us in safety to this new day. Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, or be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***The officiant may conclude with one of the following:***

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.**

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the God of peace enable us to do his will in every kind of goodness, working in us what pleases him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace. **Amen.**

