

# Service of Light

## Sunday 7.00pm



*During this service you will be invited to light a candle.  
Please only do this if it is safe to do so.*  
**NEVER LEAVE A LIGHTED CANDLE UNATTENDED**

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. *John 1.5*

*We begin our service by lighting a candle, if it is safe to do so...*

The Lord is my light and my salvation:  
my God shall make my darkness to be bright.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you  
**and also with you.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord,  
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
to you be glory and praise for ever.  
From the deep waters of death  
you brought your people to new birth  
by raising your Son to life in triumph.  
Through him dark death has been destroyed  
and radiant life is everywhere restored.  
As you call us out of darkness into his marvellous light  
may our lives reflect his glory  
and our lips repeat the endless song.  
Blessed be God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The Collect (Prayer for the Day)*

*At the end we say Amen.*

*Psalm 66 verses 1-9, 18*

Be joyful in God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name;  
sing the glory of his praise.

**Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds!  
Because of your great strength your enemies shall bow before you.**

'All the earth shall worship you,  
sing to you, sing praise to your name.'

**Come now and behold the works of God,  
how wonderful he is in his dealings with humankind.**

He turned the sea into dry land; the river they passed through on foot;  
there we rejoiced in him.

**In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations;  
Let no rebel rise up against him.**

Bless our God, O you peoples;  
make the voice of his praise to be heard,

**Who holds our souls in life  
and suffers not our feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have proved us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.

**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
nor withheld his loving mercy from me.**

**Glory to God, Source of all being,  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.

**Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.**

*The Gospel reading for today*

*At the end the reader says*

For the word of God,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## *Reflection on the reading*

*A time for sharing – our stories of life under lockdown, poems, prayers...  
Particular requests for prayers will be taken at this point.*

### *The Prayers*

We pray

for the people of God, that they may proclaim the risen Lord in word and deed...

for governments across the world, especially for our own elected leaders, that they may act with wisdom...

for scientists, working towards an effective and safe vaccination for COVID-19...

for all working in the front line – doctors, nurses, care-workers, and for all providing essential services at this time...

for all who are sick, and for comfort and peace for those who love them...

for the dying, for those in fear of death, for the bereaved and the sad, that they may find hope in despair, and light in darkness...

*A time of silence may be kept*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

### *Final Prayer*

**God of our salvation, you have restored us to life,  
you have brought us back again into your love  
by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ.  
Continue to heal us, as we go to live and work in the power of your Spirit,  
to your praise and glory. Amen.**

