

**Morning Prayer for Advent
in the Benefice of Shrivenham & Ashbury**

Preparation

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

Reveal among us the light of your presence
that we may behold your power and glory.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God of all,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
In your tender compassion
the dawn from on high is breaking upon us
to dispel the lingering shadows of night.
As we look for your coming among us this day,
open our eyes to behold your presence
and strengthen our hands to do your will,
that the world may rejoice and give you praise.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

A Song of the King's Glory

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, ♦
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

2 For he has founded it upon the seas ♦
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, ♦
or who can rise up in his holy place?'

4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, ♦
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,
nor sworn an oath to a lie;

5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, ♦
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'

6 Such is the company of those who seek him, ♦
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 'Who is the King of glory?' ♦
'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 'Who is this King of glory?' ♦
'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.'

Psalm 24

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

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

Amen.

The Word of God

Psalmody

The appointed psalmody is said.

Each psalm or group of psalms may end with:

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

A reading from Scripture

A Song of the Wilderness,

**Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.**

1 The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice, ♦
the desert shall blossom and burst into song.

2 They shall see the glory of the Lord, ♦
the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weary hands, ♦
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to the anxious, 'Be strong, fear not,
your God is coming with judgement, ♦
coming with judgement to save you.'

5 Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, ♦
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

6 Then shall the lame leap like a hart, ♦
and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy.

7 For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, ♦
and streams in the desert;

8 The ransomed of the Lord shall return with singing, ♦
with everlasting joy upon their heads.

9 Joy and gladness shall be theirs, ♦
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Isaiah 35.1, 2b-4a, 4c-6, 10

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

**Lift up your voice with strength,
O herald of good tidings.**

A reading from Scripture

The responsory

Now it is time to awake out of sleep,

for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

Now is our salvation nearer than when we first believed,

for the night is far spent.

Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness

and put on the armour of light,

for the day is at hand.

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ

and make no provision for the flesh,

for the night is far spent and the day is at hand.

from Romans 13

The Benedictus

From Advent Sunday until 16 December

**Look towards the east, O Jerusalem,
and see the glory that is coming from God.**

From 17 December until Christmas Eve

**Like the sun in the morning sky,
the Saviour of the world will dawn;
like rain upon the meadows,
the Christ will come down upon us**

1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,

4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

6 Free to worship him without fear, ♦
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

9 In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

10 To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

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

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Prayers

Intercessions are offered

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy or
hear our prayer

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us.

The Collect of the day is said

The Lord's Prayer is said

Awaiting his coming in glory,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**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.**

The Conclusion

May the Lord, when he comes,
find us watching and waiting.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Material for this service is taken from Common Worship Daily Prayer
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