

A SERVICE OF
MORNING or EVENING
PRAYER
FOR ADVENT SEASON
taken entirely from A Prayer Book for Australia



ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF ROCKHAMPTON

1. GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME (stand)

Opening hymn

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Come, let us worship and bow down:

And kneel before the Lord our maker.

Sentence of scripture.

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.**

The Song of Zechariah:

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:

who has come to his people to set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:

born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old:

to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us.

To show mercy on our forebears:

and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear:

holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:

for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation:

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God:

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death:

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

6. THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE (stand)

**O God, as we joyfully await your Son, keep us ever watchful,
that we may be ready to stand before him on the day of his coming.**

God of truth and love, give us wisdom and grace to use aright the time left to us.

Come Lord Jesus !

While we have opportunity, lead us to repent of our sins and to do what we have left undone.

Come Lord Jesus !

Strengthen us to follow in the steps of Jesus, along the pilgrim way to your eternal kingdom.

Come Lord Jesus !

May the Lord bless us and keep us,

May the Lord make his face shine upon us, and be gracious to us,

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Coming Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Final hymn

PLEASE LEAVE THIS BOOKLET AT THE CHURCH DOOR

Accept our prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to 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 forever. Amen.**

Almighty God,
give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness
and put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came among us in great humility,
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

2. THE CONFESSION (kneel)

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart. Let us then open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith:

(a time of silence)

We pray together:

**O God, you have searched us out and known us,
and all that we are is open to you.
We confess that we have sinned:
we have used our power to dominate
and our weakness to manipulate;
we have evaded responsibility and failed to confront evil;
we have denied dignity to ourselves and to each other,
and have fallen into despair.
We turn to you, O God;
we renounce evil, we claim your love,
we choose to be made whole.**

Words of consolation and assurance:

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (1John 2:1-2)

3. THE MINISTRY OF GOD'S WORD *(sit)*

First Bible reading.

For the word of the Lord : Thanks be to God.

Psalm.

Second Bible reading.

For the word of the Lord : Thanks be to God.

Hymn.

Gospel reading.

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord :

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The sermon.

The Apostle's creed:

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

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
from there 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.***

4. THE GREETING OF PEACE & OFFERING *(stand)*

We are the Body of Christ :

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you :

And also with you

Sharing of the peace.

Hymn & offertory collection.

Offering prayer:

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.

Accept and use our offerings for your glory

And for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

5. THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER *(kneel or sit)*

Seek the Lord while he may be found:

Call upon him while he is near.

Let the wicked abandon their ways:

And the unrighteous their thoughts.

Return to the Lord who will have mercy:

To our God, who will richly pardon.

The prayer for the day.

The intercessions.