

**MORNING PRAYER
THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS
1 NOVEMBER 2020**



'Saints', by Fra Angelico, 1420s.

ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF WANGARATTA

**Officiant and Preacher
The Right Rev'd Clarence E Bester
Bishop of Wangaratta**

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

God of unfailing light, in your realm of glory the poor are blessed, the hungry filled, and every tear is wiped away. Strengthened by this vision, may we, with all your saints on earth, join our voices with theirs to proclaim your rule of righteousness and peace, which comes to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- 1** **Come, let us join our cheerful songs**
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.
- 2** **'Worthy the Lamb that died,' they cry,**
'To be exalted thus;'
'Worthy the Lamb,' our lips reply,
'For He was slain for us.'
- 3** **Jesus is worthy to receive**
Honour and power divine;
And blessings more than we can give
Be, Lord, for ever thine.
- 4** **Let all creation join in one**
To bless the sacred name
Of him that sits upon the throne,
And to adore the Lamb.

Isaac Watts (1719)

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise! Revelation 5.12

Open our lips, O Lord,
and we shall declare your praise.

This is the day that the Lord has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Friends in Christ, we come together to meet with God, and to take our part in the building up of his Church. We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise, hear from God's holy word, and pray for this world, and for ourselves. The Bible tells us to approach God confidently, through our Lord Jesus Christ. As we do so, we must confess our sins, seeking forgiveness through God's boundless goodness and mercy.

God now commands all people everywhere to repent, for he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed, Jesus Christ the Lord. Acts 17.30-31

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together,

God of all mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.

We have wandered from your way.

**We have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what is right.**

You alone can save us.

Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.

**Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit
that we may live the new life to your glory.**

This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

The declaration of God's forgiveness.

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to Christ, and live. In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.

God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the gospel.

Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed;

and all people shall see it together.

Isaiah 40.5

Grace and peace be with you

and also with you.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Heavenly Father, give us wisdom and understanding. As we listen to your Word, may we know you better, love you more, and learn to please you in all we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 34:1-10, 22.

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1 I will bless the Lord continually:
his praise shall be always in my mouth.

2 Let my soul boast of the Lord:
the humble shall hear it and rejoice.

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

3 O praise the Lord with me:
let us exalt his name together.

4 For I sought the Lord's help and he answered:
and he freed me from all my fears.

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

5 Look towards him and be bright with joy:
your faces shall not be ashamed.

6 Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me:
and saved me from all my troubles.

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

7 The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him:
and delivers them in their need.

8 O taste and see that the Lord is good:
happy are they that hide in him!

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

9 Fear the Lord, all you his holy ones:
for those who fear him never lack.

10 Lions may suffer want and go hungry:
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing good.

22 The Lord ransoms the lives of his servants:
and none who hide in him will be destroyed.

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Lord God, whose blessed Son rose in triumph and set us free: grant us the fullness of life he promised us, that through the Holy Spirit our hearts may possess him whom our eyes cannot see, the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Revelation 7: 9-17

A reading from the seventh chapter of the Revelation to St. John the Divine, beginning at verse 9.

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

For the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

- 1 For all the Saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confest.
Thy name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- 2 Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**
- 3 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**4 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

William Walsham How (1864)

The Canticle, Te Deum Laudamus, is said.

We praise you, O God:

we acclaim you as Lord.

All creation worships you:

the Father everlasting.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven:

the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of apostles praise you:

The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.

The white-robed army of martyrs praise you:

Throughout the world, the holy Church acclaims you:

Father, of majesty unbounded:

your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,

the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory:

the eternal Son of the Father.

When you took our flesh to set us free:

you humbly chose the virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death:

and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

You are seated at God's right hand in glory:

We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,

bought with the price of your own blood:

and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.

SECOND READING

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

For the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Canticle, A Song to the Lamb

You are worthy, our Lord and God:

to receive glory and honour and power.

For you have created all things:

and by your will they have their being.

You are worthy, O Lamb, for you were slain:

**and by your blood you ransomed for God
saints from every tribe and language and nation.**

**You have made them to be a kingdom and priests
serving our God:**

and they will reign with you on earth.

To the One who sits on the throne and to the Lamb:

be blessing and honour and glory and might, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Revelation 4.11; 5.9b-10

HYMN

YE SERVANTS OF GOD

- 1 **Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad his wonderful name:
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol:
His kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.**
- 2 **Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son:
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.**
- 3 **Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never-ceasing, and infinite love.
Amen. Amen.**

Charles Wesley (1744)

The Apostles' 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.**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us.

**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.**

The minister continues

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens,
let your glory cover the earth.

Keep our nation under your care,
and guide us in justice and truth.

Let your way be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Send out your light and your truth,
that we may tell of your saving works.

Have mercy on the poor and oppressed.
Hear the cry of those in need.

Hear our prayers, O Lord,
for we put our trust in you.

The Collect of the Day

We praise you, heavenly Father, that you have knit together your chosen ones in one communion and fellowship in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

'Down in the River to Pray', Traditional American

INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray for the world and the Church.

The response to the prayer:

Lord, in your mercy

Is:

Hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers

Faithful God, you have promised to hear the prayers of all who ask in Jesus' name. **In your mercy, accept our prayers.**

Give us what we have asked in faith, according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created, and by whose love we are redeemed: Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

God give you grace to follow all the saints in faith, hope and love, and to know the fruit of God's Spirit in your lives; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.

HYMN

O, WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN

- 1 **O when the saints go marching in,
O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.**
- 2 **O when they crown him Lord of all,
O when they crown him Lord of all,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown him Lord of all.**
- 3 **O when they sing the Saviour's praise
O when they sing the Saviour's praise
O Lord, I want to be in that number
When they sing the Saviour's praise**
- 4 **O when the saints go marching in,
O when the saints go marching in,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.**

Traditional African-American Spiritual

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