

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26



The Lord bless us,
and watch over us:
The Lord make his face
shine upon us,
and be gracious unto us:
The Lord lift up his
countenance upon us, and
gives us his peace.” **Amen.**

[Numbers 6:24-26](#)

Leader, Greeting,

Jesus said “For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have
eternal life,
and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Loving God, we give thanks for calling us to come together in worship,
reflection, and celebration as one fellowship.

Although we are in our separate homes your Spirit holds us firmly
together,

Jesus said “For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with
them”.

Come among us Lord Jesus

Be with us as we come together and in our partings,

In our Words, our thoughts and our silence

Come among us

And dwell in us this evening and all our meetings whether it be remotely
or together in Church. **Amen.**

L Jesus Said “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all
your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest
commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as
yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two
commandments.” [Matthew 22:37-40](#)

The lord be with you. **All. And also with you.**

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Lighting of Worship Candles



Blessed are you Lord God,
creator of day and night:
to you be praise and glory for ever.
As darkness falls you renew your
promise to reveal among us the light of
your presence.
By the light of Christ,
your living Word,
dispel the darkness of our hearts
that we may walk as children of light.
Amen

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
All and also with you.

Reader.

Invitation to confession

Reader. Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.

**All. We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

Leader. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart:
Lord, have mercy. **All. Lord, have mercy.**

Reader. You came to call sinners:
Christ, have mercy. **All. Christ, have mercy.**

Reader.. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us:
Lord, have mercy. **All. Lord, have mercy.**

leader. Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
we pray that you have mercy upon *us*,
pardon and deliver *us* from all *our* sins,
confirm and strengthen *us* in all goodness,
**All and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Gloria

L. Glory to God in the highest,
And peace to his people on earth, Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father.

All We worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Reader. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

All . you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

Reader. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,

All . Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Leader. Collect.

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall please you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Reader. Said Hymn All praise to You, my God, this night

1 All praise to You, my God, this night,
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath the shelter of Your wings.

2 Forgive me, Lord, for this I pray,
The wrong that I have done this day.
May peace with God and neighbour be,
Before I sleep restored to me.

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

3 Lord, may I be at rest in You
And sweetly sleep the whole night through
Refresh my strength, for Your own sake,
So I may serve You when I wake.

4 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

**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 Word of the Lord,

leader, 2 Peter 3:8- 9

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years
are like one day.

The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is
patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.

This is the word of the Lord. **All Thanks be to God.**

Leader. May the Lord be in our minds, on our lips and in our hearts as we
hear the words of the holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Mark **All. Glory to you, O Lord.**

Leader Mark 1. 1-8

John the Baptist Prepares the Way

1 The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of
God;

as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”

“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All Praise to you, O Christ.**

Leader. O God, my Strength,

we believe that We can do all things through you who strengthens us.

We ask that You have Your divine way in our lives so that we can grow into this divine promotion that You have called us to.

The Apostles creed The Creed (*We join in with the words in bold*)

L. We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,

All. **maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

Reader. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

All. **God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

Leader. Begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

All. **Through him all things were made.**

Reader.. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

All. **For our sake, he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

Leader. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

All.. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Reader.. We believe in the Holy Spirit, **All.. the Lord, the giver of life,**

Reader.. who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

All. With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.

Leader.. He has spoken through the prophets.

All. We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

Leader. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

All.. and the life of the world to come. Amen

Let us Pray. Prayers of Intercession

Leader. O Lord our God,
source of all goodness and love,
accept the fervent prayers of your people;
in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion
upon all who turn to you for help;
Lord, in your Mercy, - **Hear our prayer**

Reader, Holy God, We pray for Christians around the world who are living in fear due to persecution or hatred.

We pray for all in ministry

Bring your inspiration and energy to their ministries.

May they be refreshed with your Peace that comes through the power of the Holy Spirit.

For those involved in the weekly Summer Messy Church sessions,

May they light your fire in the Children that never goes out, that gives them faith the Jesus to be their rock, their guide and their inspiration,

Lord, in your Mercy, - **Hear our prayer**

Leader. God of Mercy,

We pray for an end to the wars, poverty and human rights abuses that drive desperate people to become refugees in the first place.

Help us to remember the power of prayer and to pray against the greed, destruction and harm we see around us.

Lord, in your mercy. **hear our prayer**

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Reader. Loving God we place in your hands those who are sick.
We ask that you ease their pain, and heal the damage they are suffering in
body, mind or spirit.

Be present with them through the support of friends and in the care of
doctors and nurses.

In a moment of quietness, we name in our hearts those we know who are
in need at this time.....

Moment of Quiet

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Leader. Lord we bring before the named sick
*May Christs healing hand rest on “**NAMES** ” give Them wholeness of
body, mind and spirit and also give their families peace and comfort*
Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord be with those that care for and wait with the dying, Remind them
that **you** are walking with him right now and that you love them **no** matter
what they are going through.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We thank you for those who have travelled before us on the way of the
cross and are now at peace in your eternal presence.
Help us to live always mindful of your promise that the road of faith will
lead us to your heavenly kingdom..

This evening we bring before you the recently departed and those whose
anniversary of their passing falls at this time,

Eternal rest grant unto them, *O Lord,*
and **LET LIGHT PERPETUAL SHINE UPON THEM**
may they rest in Peace
AND RISE IN GLORY. Amen

We pray to you, our God, for those who are mourning the death of
someone close and dear to them, either recently or at this time of year.

May our lives reflect your glory and your love, to the places we are and
the people we meet in the coming week.

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Merciful Father

**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

Leader. God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All. and also with you.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Leader. Blessed be God,
by whose grace creation is renewed,
by whose love heaven is opened,
by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.

Blessed be God for ever.

L. The Lord be with you **and also with you.**

L. The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

L. Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

L. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Reader. It is indeed right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

L holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

All. Hosanna in the highest.

Reader. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All. Hosanna in the highest.

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Leader. Blessed are you, Lord God, our light and our salvation;
All. to you be glory and praise for ever.

Leader. Pour out your Holy Spirit
The Light of God surrounds us;
The Love of God enfolds us;
The Power of God protects us;
The Presence of God watches over us;
Wherever we are, --God is----

Leader. Believing the promises of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All. 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, Forever and ever. Amen.

Leader Jesus, We believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
We love You above all things, and desire to receive You into our soul.
Since we cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into our heart's.

All. I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

L. Soul of Christ,- sanctify me.
Body of Christ,- save me.
Blood of Christ, - inebriate me.
Water from the side of Christ,- wash me.
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

Leader O good Jesu, hear me. **All.** Within your wounds hide me.

Leader. Suffer me not to be separated from you.

From the malicious enemy defend me.

In the hour of my death call me and bid me come to you,
that with St Matthew and all your Saints O most merciful redeemer,
friend and brother,

All. may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day Amen.

L. Almighty God, through Your Blessed Sacrament,
keep us united with all our brothers and sisters here at St Matthews and
throughout the church.

Bind us together in Word, Sacrament and Love,

All. until we are reunited again in Your church. . Amen.

NOTICES

The Conclusion

Leader. In peace we will lie down and sleep;

Reader. for you alone, Lord, make us dwell in safety.

Leader. Abide with us, Lord Jesus,

Reader. for the night is at hand and the day is now past.

Leader. As the night watch looks for the morning,

All. so do we look for you, O Christ. AMEN.

-X-X-X-X-XX-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X—X-X-X-X-X-X-X-X-

• Goodbyes

Leader. Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

All. I come to Christ.

Leader. The Lord bless us and keep us;

The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace

And we pray that

“preparing the Way” 18th August 26

All. The blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit will be among us and remain with us always.
Amen

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

and **All.** 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.**