

## Evening Prayer - Saturday and daily from All Saints' to Advent

### THE BLESSING OF THE LIGHT

*A light, which may be the Paschal Candle, is brought in, or a candle may simply be lit.*

Let us give thanks to our God,  
who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and made us partakers in the inheritance  
of the saints in light.

The light of Christ be with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to God  
**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Blessèd are you,  
the Living One,  
to you be glory and praise for ever!  
In the darkness of this passing age,  
your saints proclaim the glory of your Kingdom,  
revealed among us in Christ, our light.  
Open our eyes to behold your presence  
and join our song with those of the saints  
in praise of all your marvellous deeds,  
Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life:  
**Blessèd be God for ever!**

*Or:*

Blessèd are you, Sovereign God,  
our light and our salvation,  
eternal Creator of day and night,  
to you be glory and praise for ever!  
[Now, as darkness is falling,  
hear the prayer of your faithful people.]  
As we look for your coming in glory,  
wash away our transgressions,  
cleanse us by your refining fire  
and make us temples of your Holy Spirit.  
By the light of Christ,  
dispel the darkness of our hearts  
and make us ready to enter your kingdom,  
where songs of praise for ever sound,  
Father Son and Holy Spirit:  
**Blessèd be God for ever!**

*While the other candles are lit the following or another suitable hymn may be sung.*

### A SONG OF THE LIGHT

- 1 **Hail, gladdening Light, of God's pure glory pour'd,  
Who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest,  
Holiest of Holies, Jesus Christ our Lord.**
- 2 **Now we are come to the Sun's hour of rest,**

The lights of evening round us shine;  
We hymn the Father, Son and Holy Spirit divine.  
3 Worthy are you at all times to be sung  
With undefiled tongue,  
Son of our God, giver of life, alone;  
Therefore in all the world your glories, Lord,  
they own.

*Verses from PSALM 141 may be said:*

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;  
hear my voice when I cry to you.  
Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,  
and guard the door of my lips.

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;  
let me not be occupied in wickedness.  
But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God,  
in you I take refuge;  
do not leave me defenceless.

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

*THE OPENING PRAYER may be said:*

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,  
so may your mercy come down upon us  
to cleanse our hearts  
and set us free to sing your praise,  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ka mea te Atua, "Heoi ki te āta whakarongo koutou ki toku reo, ki te pupuri hoki i taku kawenata, ka waiho koutou hei taonga mōku, motu kē i ngā iwi katoa; a ka waiho koutou e ahau hei kīngi, hei tohunga, hei iwi tapu hoki." *Ekoruhe 19.5.6a*

Meinga e te kai whakarite  
I te tVmatanga me te mutunga  
Kia mārō tonu te haere  
A hemo noa  
Ā mātou inoi ā mātou wawata  
Ki a koe e te tapu o te rangi.  
Ki te kore koe  
Ka kore mātou  
E whai painga  
ki āu koha  
Te aroha me te inoi kia piri pono tonu  
Ki te Tokotoru Tapu,  
Kotahi nei Atua. **Āmine.**

THE WORD OF GOD — see the introduction

the Psalm(s) - the following may be used, those in the Lectionary, or those in the Alternate Table of Psalms

**Week 1 & Sundays from All Saints' to Advent**

— Psalm 17

- 1 Hear my just cause, attend to my cry O Lord:  
listen to my prayer from lips that do not lie.
- 2 Let judgment in my favour  
come forth from your presence:  
and let your eyes discern what is right.
- 3 You have searched my heart,  
and visited me by night:  
if you test me,  
you will find no wickedness in me,  
my mouth does not offend.
- 4 With regard to human deeds:  
because of the word of your lips,  
I have avoided the ways of the violent.
- 5 My steps have been firm in your paths:  
and my feet have not stumbled.
- 6 I call upon you O God for you will answer me:  
incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- 7 Show me the wonders of your steadfast love:  
for by your right hand  
you save from their adversaries  
those who take refuge with you.
- 8 Guard me as the apple of your eye:  
hide me under the shadow of your wings,
- 9 from the wicked who assail me:  
from deadly foes who surround me.
- 10 They have closed their hearts to pity:  
and their mouths speak arrogant things.
- 11 They press hard upon me from every side:  
watching how they may  
strike me down to the ground,
- 12 like a lion that is greedy for prey:  
like a young lion  
crouching in a place of ambush.
- 13 Arise O Lord, stand in their way  
and bring them down:  
let your sword rescue me from the wicked.
- 14 Let your hand deliver me from people  
whose portion in life is of the world:  
who have gorged themselves  
with your good things.
- 15 They have children at their desire:  
and leave to heirs what remains of their wealth.
- 16 But as for me, I shall see your face  
because my plea is just:  
when I awake and see your face  
I shall be satisfied.

*Dear Lord, watch with those who wake or watch or weep tonight,*

*and give your angels charge over those who sleep;  
tend your sick ones,  
rest your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones,  
and all, for your love's sake. Amen.*

**Week 2 and Mondays from All Saints' to Advent**

— Psalm 15

- 1 Lord, who may be a guest in your house:  
or who may dwell on your holy mountain?
- 2 One who leads a blameless life:  
who does what is right,  
and speaks truthfully from the heart,
- 3 whose tongue is free from malice,  
who never wrongs a friend:  
and utters no reproach against a neighbour,
- 4 who does not honour the unworthy:  
but makes much of those who fear the Lord.
- 5 Such a one stands by a promise given:  
though it be at personal disadvantage,
- 6 and will not take interest on a loan:  
nor accept a bribe  
to testify against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does all this:  
shall never be overthrown.

*Christ of the festive table  
may we who have been your guests  
reveal your life to all the world.  
May we be no longer your servants,  
but know your will,  
and be your friends. Amen.*

**Week 3 & Tuesdays from All Saints' to Advent**

— from Psalm 73

- 1 Truly God is good to the upright:  
to those who are pure in heart.
- 2 Nevertheless my feet had almost stumbled:  
my steps had well-nigh slipped.
- 3 For the boasting of the wicked roused me to envy:  
when I saw how greatly they prosper.
- 13 So it was all in vain that I kept my heart clean:  
and washed my hands in innocence.
- 14 All the day long have I been buffeted:  
and punished anew every morning.
- 15 If I had said, 'I will go on speaking like this':  
then I should have betrayed  
the children of God.
- 16 So I kept thinking how to understand this:  
but I found it too hard for me,
- 17 till I went into the sanctuary of God:  
and then I perceived  
what becomes of the wicked.
- 18 Surely it is on slippery ground that you set them:

- and make them fall headlong to ruin.
- 19 How suddenly they come to destruction:  
they are swept away, and come to a fearful end.
- 20 Like a dream when one awakens:  
so Lord you arise to dismiss them as phantoms.
- 21 When therefore I was embittered:  
and envy goaded my heart,
- 22 stupid was I and ignorant:  
no better than a beast in your sight.
- 23 Yet I am always with you:  
for you hold me by my right hand.
- 24 You guide me with your counsel:  
and afterwards will receive me with glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven but you?:  
and having you,  
I desire nothing else upon earth.
- 26 My flesh and my heart may fail:  
but God is the strength of my heart  
and my possession for ever.
- 27 Those who go far from you Lord shall perish:  
and all who are faithless you will destroy.
- 28 But for me it is good to draw near to God:  
I have made you Lord God my refuge,  
and I will speak of all you have done.

*God, you know better than we  
the temptations that will bring us down.  
Grant that our love for you may protect us  
from all foolish and corrupting desire. Amen.*

**Week 4 & Wednesdays from All Saints' to Advent**

— Psalm 77

- 1 I cry aloud to God:  
I cry aloud to the one who will hear me.
- 2 In the day of my distress I sought the Lord:  
by night my hands were  
spread out in prayer without ceasing,  
my soul refused all comfort.
- 3 I remembered my God, and I groaned:  
in my thinking my spirit fainted.
- 4 You kept my eyelids from closing:  
I was dazed and I could not speak.
- 5 I thought of the days of old:  
I remembered the years long past.
- 6 At night I communed with my heart:  
I pondered, and I questioned my spirit,
- 7 'Will you O Lord reject us for ever:  
and never more show us your favour?
- 8 'Has your unfailing love now failed us for ever:  
is your promise made void for all generations?
- 9 'Have you forgotten to be gracious:  
and in anger withheld your compassion?'

- 10 And I said, 'This thought causes me grief:  
that the right hand of the Most High  
has lost its strength.'
- 11 But then I remember what the Lord has done:  
and call to mind your wonders of old.
- 12 I meditate on all your works:  
and ponder the things you have done.
- 13 Your way O God is holy:  
what god is so great as our God?
- 14 You are the God who does wonders:  
you have shown your power  
among the nations.
- 15 With your strong arm you delivered your people:  
the offspring of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you O God,  
the waters saw you and were afraid:  
they trembled in their depths.
- 17 The clouds poured out water,  
the heavens thundered:  
and your arrows flashed abroad.
- 18 The voice of your thunder  
was heard in the whirlwind:  
the earth was shaken and trembling.
- 19 Your path was in the sea,  
and your way was through the great waters:  
and your footprints were not seen.
- 20 You led your people like sheep:  
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

*God, the strength of all who believe in you,  
increase our faith and trust  
in your Son Jesus Christ,  
that in him we may live victoriously. Amen.*

**Week 5 & Thursdays from All Saints' to Advent**

— Psalm 34

- 1 I will give thanks to the Lord at all times:  
God's praise will always be on my lips.
- 2 My soul will glory in the Lord:  
the humble will hear and be glad.
- 3 O praise the Lord with me:  
let us exalt God's name together.
- 4 I sought your help O Lord and you answered me:  
and freed me from all my fears.
- 5 Look towards the Most High,  
and be radiant with light:  
and your faces will not be ashamed.
- 6 In my affliction I cried out,  
and the Lord heard me:  
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 Your angel O Lord  
keeps guard around those who fear you:  
to rescue them in time of danger.

- 8 Taste and see how gracious the Lord is:  
     happy are those  
         who find refuge in the Most High.
- 9 Fear the Lord, you that are God's holy people:  
     for those who fear the Lord  
         are in want of nothing.
- 10 Strong lions suffer want and go hungry:  
     but those who seek the Lord  
         shall lack nothing that is good.
- 11 Come my children and listen to me:  
     I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- 12 Which of you delights in life:  
     and desires many days of prosperity?
- 13 Keep your tongue from evil:  
     and your lips from speaking lies.
- 14 Turn away from evil and do good:  
     seek peace and steadily pursue it.
- 15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous:  
     God's ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The Lord opposes those who do evil:  
     to blot out the remembrance of them  
         from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them:  
     and rescues them from all their troubles.
- 18 The Lord is near to those  
     who are broken-hearted:  
         the Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- 19 The troubles of the righteous are many:  
     but the Lord sets them free from them all.
- 20 The Lord guards every bone  
     in the body of the righteous:  
     and so not one of them is broken.
- 21 Evil brings death to the wicked:  
     and those who hate the righteous  
         are brought to ruin.
- 22 You O Lord ransom the lives of your servants:  
     and none who take refuge in you shall perish.

*Risen Saviour,  
 you comforted your disciples when you were going to die:  
 now set our troubled hearts at rest and banish our fears.  
 You are the way to the Father:  
 help us to follow you.  
 You are the truth:  
 bring us to know you.  
 You are the life:  
 give us that life with you, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Week 6 & Fridays from All Saints' to Advent**

- 1 Give judgment for me O God,  
     and plead my cause  
         against an ungodly people:

- save me from the deceitful and the wicked.
- 2 You are my stronghold,  
    why have you rejected me:  
    why do I go mourning  
        oppressed by the enemy?
  - 3 O send out your light and your truth to lead me:  
    and bring me to your holy hill  
        and to your dwelling.
  - 4 Then I will go to the altar of God,  
    the God of my joy and gladness:  
    and praise you with the harp O God my God.
  - 5 Why are you cast down my soul:  
    and why are you so troubled with in me:
  - 6 Wait in hope for God:  
    for I will yet praise the one  
        who is my saviour and my God.

*God faithful and true,  
make us eager with expectation,  
as we look for the fulfilment of your promise  
in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.*

**Week 7 & Saturdays from All Saints' to Advent**

— Psalm 16

- 1 Preserve me O God:  
    for in you I have taken refuge.
- 2 I have said to the Lord, 'You are my God:  
    from you alone comes all my prosperity.'
- 3 All my delight is in the faithful  
    who dwell in the land:  
    and in those who excel in virtue.
- 4 But as for those who run after other gods:  
    their troubles shall be multiplied.
- 5 Libations of blood I will not offer to those gods:  
    nor will I take their names upon my lips.
- 6 You Lord are my allotted portion and my cup:  
    you yourself have cast my lot.
- 7 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land:  
    indeed I have a noble heritage.
- 8 I will thank you O Lord for giving me counsel:  
    at night also you teach my heart.
- 9 I keep you always before me:  
    you are on my right hand,  
    therefore I shall not fall.
- 10 So my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices:  
    my body also shall rest in safety.
- 11 For you will not give me up  
    to the power of death:  
    nor suffer your beloved to see the Abyss.
- 12 You will show me the path of life,  
    in your presence is the fullness of joy:  
    and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.

*May we who in baptism die to sin,  
rise again to new life  
and find our true place in your living body.  
May the new covenant sealed in your blood  
through us bring healing and reconciliation  
to this wounded world.  
Alleluia. You are risen. We are risen with you.  
Praise and glory to the living God. Amen.*

THE OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE

*If there are two Scripture Readings, the first may be read before the OT Canticle, or both may be read after it.*

Either: *THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD*

- 1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me:  
because the Lord has anointed me  
to bring good tidings to the afflicted.
- 2 The Lord has sent me  
to bind up the broken-hearted:  
to proclaim liberty for the captives,  
and release for those in prison,
- 3 to comfort all who mourn:  
to bestow on them a crown of beauty  
instead of ashes,
- 4 the oil of gladness instead of mourning:  
a garment of splendour for the heavy heart.
- 5 They shall be called trees of righteousness:  
planted for the glory of the Lord.
- 6 Therefore I will greatly rejoice in the Lord:  
my soul shall exult in my God,
- 7 for God has robed me with salvation  
as a garment:  
and clothed me with integrity as a cloak.
- 8 For as the earth brings forth its shoots:  
and as a garden causes the seeds to spring up,
- 9 so the Lord God will cause  
righteousness and praise:  
to spring forth before all the nations.

*Isaiah 61.1-3, 10, 11*

**Glory to . . .**

Or: *BENEDICITE AOTEAROA*

- 1 O give thanks to our God who is good:  
whose love endures for ever.
- 2 You sun and moon, you stars of the southern sky:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 3 Sunrise and sunset, night and day:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 4 All mountains and valleys, grassland and scree,  
glacier, avalanche, mist and snow:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 5 You kauri and pine, rata and kowhai,  
mosses and ferns:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.

- 6 Dolphins and kahawai, sealion and crab,  
coral, anemone, pipi and shrimp:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 7 Rabbits and cattle, moths and dogs,  
kiwi and sparrow and tui and hawk:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 8 You māori and pākehā, women and men,  
all who inhabit the long white cloud:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 9 All you saints and martyrs of the South Pacific:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- [10 All prophets and priests, all cleaners and clerks,  
professors, shop workers,  
typists and teachers,  
job-seekers, invalids, drivers and doctors:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 11 All sweepers and diplomats, writers and artists,  
grocers, carpenters, students and stock-agents,  
seafarers, farmers, bakers and mystics:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.
- 12 All children and infants, all people who play:  
give to our God your thanks and praise.]

**THE SCRIPTURE READING(S)**

*The Short Scripture Reading may be used, or those from the lectionary, either is followed by the Responsory, or*

*This RESPONSE to the reading may be used:*

Lord, you will guide me by your counsel  
**And afterwards receive me with glory.**

**THE GOSPEL CANTICLE: THE MAGNIFICAT**

*Refrain:*

**God, you show the strength of your arm;\*  
you cast down the mighty and raise up the lowly.**

*Or, from All Saints' to Advent:*

**The righteous will shine like the sun\*  
in the kingdom of their Father.**

*Or, on feasts of any Saint:*

**In the heavenly kingdom,  
the blessed have their dwelling place;\*  
and their rest for ever and ever.**

The Song of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 1 My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord:  
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour,
- 2 for you Lord have looked with favour  
on your lowly servant:  
and from this day all generations will call me  
blessèd.
- 3 You O Most Mighty have done great things for me:  
and holy is your name.
- 4 You have mercy on those who fear you:

- from generation to generation.
- 5 You have shown the strength of your arm:  
you have scattered the proud in their conceit.
- 6 You have cast down the mighty from their  
thrones:  
and have lifted up the lowly.
- 7 You have filled the hungry with good things:  
and the rich you have sent away empty.
- 8 You have come to the help of your people:  
for you have remembered your promise of mercy,
- 9 the promise you made to our forebears:  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

**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.**

*Or*

**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 refrain is repeated after the canticle.*

#### **THE PRAYERS**

*Intercession and Thanksgiving are offered in free prayer or in silence, ending with the following, [or some other appropriate litany or prayer ]:*

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.

**Lord, have mercy. E te Ariki, kia aroha mai.**

Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoners come before you;  
and by your great might,  
spare those who are condemned to die.

**Christ, have mercy. E te Karaiti, kia aroha mai.**

Lord, give strength to your people,  
and give us your blessing of peace.

**Lord, have mercy. E te Ariki, kia aroha mai.**

*THE COLLECT for the day, or for Saturdays*

Abide with us, O Lord,  
for it is toward evening and the day is almost over;  
abide with us,  
for the days are hastening on  
and we hasten with them;  
abide with us and with all your faithful people,  
until the daystar rises and the morning light appears,  
and we shall abide with you for ever . . .

*The Collect for the Season from All Saints' to Advent*

O God, who in the work of creation  
commanded the light to shine out of darkness:  
we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ  
may shine into the hearts of all your people,

dispelling the darkness of ignorance and unbelief  
and revealing to them the knowledge of your glory  
in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord . . .

*The Lord's Prayer follows*

Looking for the fulfilment of the promise of glory  
and as Christ teaches us we pray . . .

#### THE CONCLUSION

##### THE BLESSING

**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**

*ko tēnei rānei*

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa  
te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, o Ihu Karaiti,  
me te aroha o te Atua,  
me te whiwhinga tahitanga ki te Wairua Tapu,  
ake ake. Āmine.**

*Or, from All Saints' to Advent:*

**May Christ the King give us his blessing of peace. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**