

St Cuthbert's Church West Hampstead



Worshipping in union and love
with your Church
whilst at home

during the coronavirus pandemic

Some notes about this Order of Service

This order of service is designed to help people who are self-isolating or unable to come to church on a Sunday to worship whilst at home. It can be used by an individual, or by multiple people gathering together in the same household.

Prayer is never something which is done alone. Whenever we pray, we do so *in communion*. We pray in communion with the Church throughout the world, and we are united with our brother and sister Christians everywhere. And when we pray, we do so in communion with heaven, with the saints who worship God face to face in the nearer and greater glory of God's presence. This great cloud of witnesses (*Hebrews 12:1*) surrounds and enfolds us on every side with their strong and loving prayers as we continue our pilgrimage throughout this life.

We suggest using this service at the same time as the Sunday service you usually attend. We hope that, by using prayers and texts in common with those who are praying in church, that you will feel a special union with your friends at Emmanuel. Please know that we are praying for you, as you pray with us.

In addition to this booklet, you will need a Bible for this service. You can access the New International Version, which we use at St Cuthbert's, by clicking here:

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/niv/>

Or, if you wish a fuller table of the readings, you can link to these readings from the Episcopal Church in the United States of America (which are broadly the same as the international Anglican Communion and the majority of denominations throughout the world). These also provide you, if you wish, with a set of readings for use every day by clicking here:

<http://www.lectionarypage.net>

You might also like to light a candle, and place a crucifix, cross, or icon on a table, as a focus for your prayers.

At the end of this booklet you will find some other prayers for use every day (including those for use with children) and resources to help you worship regularly whilst you are unable to come to church.

If using this service with multiple people, nominate one person to lead the service (saying the words in normal type) while everyone else says the words in **bold type**. If using this service alone, then say both the words in normal type and **bold type** yourself.

With my warmest good wishes and prayers,
as ever

The Revd Hugh Thomas
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The Introduction

✠ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
and with us all of us who meet in God's name

For the great fifty days from Easter Day to Pentecost this ancient acclamation follows

Alleluia! Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*The **Prayer of Preparation** is said:*

**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.**

*We say the **Confession**:*

Let us call to mind our sins,
and ask for God's mercy and forgiveness.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.

The Collect (opening prayer)

Lent (until 30 March)

Almighty God,
may we, by the prayer and discipline of Lent,
enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings;
that by following in the Way,
we may come to share in the glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Passiontide (31 March to 10 April)

Almighty God,
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,
help us to see and know your love for us,
so that in humility, love and joy
we may place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Easter (11 April to 20 May)

Almighty God,
by triumphing over the powers of darkness
Christ has prepared a place for us in the new Jerusalem:
may we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection,
praise him in the eternal city
of which he is the light;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

From Ascension to Pentecost. (21 to 31 May)

Come, O Spirit of God,
and make within us your dwelling place and home.
May our darkness be dispelled by your light,
and our troubles calmed by your peace;
may all evil be redeemed by your love,
all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ,
and all dying glorified in his risen life.

Amen.

Sharing the Word

Read the **Gospel reading** set for the Sunday:

Sunday 22 March (Lent 4) or else Mothering Sunday	John 9.1-41 John 19:25-27
Sunday 29 March (Lent 5)	John 11.1-45
Sunday 5 April (Palm Sunday)	Matthew 21.1-11 and Matthew 27.11-54
Maundy Thursday	John 13.1-17,31-35
Good Friday	John 18.1 – end of John 19
Sunday 12 April (Easter Day)	John 20.1-18
Sunday 19 April (Easter 2)	John 20.19-end
Sunday 26 April (Easter 3)	Luke 24.13-35
Sunday 3 May (Easter 4)	John 10.1-10
Sunday 10 May (Easter 5)	John 14.1-14
Sunday 17 May (Easter 6)	John 14.15-21
Ascension Day	Luke 24.44-end
Sunday 24 May (Easter 7)	John 17.1-11
Sunday 31 May (Pentecost)	John 20.19-23 (and Acts 2.1-21)

After the Gospel has been read, you may wish to spend some time reflecting on the reading in silence or in conversation.

For the **Prayers of Intercession** use the set form below, or make your own prayers.

Loving God, we pray for the Church,
for her mission and unity in love.
For Justin our Archbishop, for Sarah our Bishop
and for Robert, our Area Bishop of Edmonton.
Strengthen Christians of all denominations,
those of other faiths and all people of good will.

God of love
hear our prayer.

We pray for the world,
for Elizabeth our Queen and all in authority under her,
for our Prime Minister, Government and our Member of Parliament
for peace among the nations,
and for the welfare of creation.

God of love,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our church family at St Cuthbert's,
for those gathered in church this day,
and for *us/me* and others who join in worship
by praying at home.

God of love,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the sick,
especially at this time
for those suffering from coronavirus,
for all who are isolating or under quarantine at this time,
(for me/us praying here before you;)
and for healthcare professionals,
and all in positions of responsibility.

God of love,
hear our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for those who have died,
and for those who grieve for them.
(add any by name or whose anniversaries fall at this time)

God of love,
hear our prayer.

*You may wish to add your own prayers,
or pray in silence*

Rejoicing in the fellowship
of all your saints,
we commend ourselves
and the whole creation
to your unfailing love

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

We say the **Lord's Prayer** together

Coming together as the family of God
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.**

Spiritual Communion

Although you are not able physically to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, you may wish to make a Spiritual Communion using the following words. Spritual Communion has a long and venerable traditon going back many centuries and enables Christ's faithful people to avail themselves of all the benefits of holy communion even if unable to be in church themselves.

**My Jesus,
I believe that you are present
in the most holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things,
and I desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive you sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

You may wish to say the prayer the Church of England has published for all those affected by coronavirus:

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort knowing
that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

*Conclude with **the Grace:***

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

Let us bless the Lord
Thanks be to God

or, during the great fifty days from Easter to Pentecost
Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!! Alleluia!!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!! Alleluia!!

Television and Radio resources

You may wish to join in worship during this time through television and radio:

The Archbishop of Canterbury will lead the first of the nation's communal acts of worship on 22 March for Mothering Sunday, when we at St Cuthbert's Church celebrate all those who nurture and care for children in the amazing diversity of family life in our community. Check on line, in the Radio Times and elsewhere for details and Fr Hugh will distribute these along with further details each week as soon as possible

Songs of Praise

BBC 1, Sunday afternoon, variable times

Sunday Worship

BBC Radio 4, Sunday, 8.10am

Choral Evensong

BBC Radio 3, Wednesday

Daily Service

BBC Radio 4 (Longwave only), weekdays, 9.45am

Big Sunday Service

Premier Christian Radio, Sunday, 7am, 8am, 10am

Easter Sunday Eucharist

A service is usually broadcast on the BBC on Easter morning

Online resources

Church of England Daily Prayer

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Church of England Online Resources during this time

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources>

EWTN Daily Mass

<https://www.ewtn.com/>

St Cuthbert's Church website and Facebook page

<https://stcuthbertschurchhampstead.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Cuthberts-Church-West-Hampstead-110153837166861/>

Some other prayers and resources you might find useful from the Church of England (*and elsewhere where stated*)

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need
as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety, give us strength
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated
of our love, and your love,
for your name's sake.

Amen.

God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

For those who are ill

Merciful God,
we entrust to your tender care
those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.
Comfort and heal them,
and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For hospital staff and medical researchers

Gracious God,
give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick,
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strengthen them with your Spirit,
that through their work many will be restored to health;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For one who is ill or isolated

O God,
help me to trust you,
help me to know that you are with me,
help me to believe that nothing can separate me
from your love
revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For the Christian community

We are not people of fear:
we are people of courage.
We are not people who protect our own safety:
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.
We are not people of greed:
we are people of generosity.
We are your people God,
giving and loving,
wherever we are,
whatever it costs
For as long as it takes
wherever you call us.

Barbara Glasson, President of the Methodist Conference

Special Prayers for and with children during the day or at bedtime

A prayer for when a friend is ill

Dear God, *(name of friend)* is ill.
They are not allowed to go to school or come over to play.
I'm sad because I miss them.
They must be feeling miserable and lonely as well.

Please be close to them.
Please be with the people who are looking after them.
Please help them to get better and to know that you love them.
Amen.

A prayer for the world

God of love and hope,
you made the world and care for all creation,
but the world feels strange right now.
The news is full of stories about Coronavirus.
Some people are worried that they might get ill.
Others are anxious for their family and friends.
Be with them and help them to find peace.
We pray for the doctors and nurses and scientists,
and all who are working to discover the right medicines
to help those who are ill.
Thank you that even in these anxious times, you are with us.
Help us to put our trust in you and keep us safe.
Amen.

A prayer at bedtime

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.
Tonight we pray especially for
(*names family or friends who are affected by Coronavirus*) and the people
of (*country or place which is affected by Coronavirus*).
Please give skill and wisdom to all who are caring for them.
Amen.

A prayer remembering God is with us

Lord God, you are always with me.
You are with me in the day and in the night.
You are with me when I'm happy and when I'm sad.
You are with me when I'm healthy and when I am ill.
You are with me when I am peaceful and when I am worried.
Today I am feeling (*name how you are feeling*) because
(*reasons you are feeling this way*).
Help me to remember that you love me
and are with me in everything today.
Amen.