

PRAYER IN THE HOME

FOR THE SUNDAYS BEFORE LENT

GATHERING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us light a candle to remember that God is with us.

God is spirit
Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

The Lord is with us.
Let us praise his name together.

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.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

CONFESSION

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ.

As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

Silence is kept.

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world
We have kept the love of God to ourselves:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins,
and assure us of his eternal love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PSALM

BIBLE READING

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:

- Which words or phrases in this reading stand out for me?
- What does the reading remind me of?
- How does the reading influence or inform my faith?

SERMON You can find this week's sermon at:
<https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons>

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray to God,
who alone makes us dwell in safety:

For a revival of longing for your kingdom to come,
and a renewed commitment to working for it;
for a desire to live out our faith and worship
in our daily lives.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have authority and power
in our nation and in the world, that they may use it for good,
upholding and instigating what is right and fair,
and listening to the needs of those they represent.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For all those who are struggling to survive;
especially at this time we remember
the people of Afghanistan,
that peace and justice may prevail
and practical help will be given.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those living in poverty in our own country,
that policies may work in favour of the most vulnerable
and that there may be a new awareness of the needs of others
within local communities.

Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who are unwell,
for the lonely and isolated,
for those who have lost loved ones,
that each may know your comfort and peace:
Lord, hear us,
Lord, graciously hear us.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

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

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we 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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you
and give you peace.