

## Morning Prayer - Wednesday and daily in Christmastide

### PREPARATION

I whakakikokikotia te Kupu, a noho ana i a mātou, kV tonu i te aroha noa, i te pono; i kite anō mātou i tōna korōria e rite ana ki tō te Tama kotahi i puta mai i te Matua.

*Hoani 1.14*

E te Atua Matua o te maungārongo  
I whānau mai ai tāu tama i roto i te mahakitanga  
O te Puhi o Meri  
Noho tūturu mai i raro i te Whetū marama  
Te tohu o te aroha tapu  
Kia whānau hou anō ai mātou  
I roto i te Wairua Tapu  
Ki tōu Atuatanga, ki tōu rangatiratanga i te rangi  
Ko Ihu Karaiti nei tō mātou Ariki. **Āmine.**

O Lord, open our lips;  
**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Blessèd are you, Sovereign God, creator of all;  
To you be glory and praise for ever!  
[You founded the earth in the beginning  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.]  
As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us,  
let the light of your love always shine in our hearts  
and your praises ever be on our lips,  
Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life:  
**Blessèd be God for ever!**

*The following is said:*

God comes to set us free:  
**O come let us worship.**

*Or, in Christmastide:*

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us:  
**O come, let us worship.**

*Or, on feasts of the BVM:*

(Alleluia!) Christ is the Son of Mary:  
**O come, let us worship. (Alleluia!)**

*An opening psalm or canticle may be used.  
A hymn may be sung.*

*THE OPENING PRAYER may be said.*

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind:

*(Silence may be kept)*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever. **Amen.**

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 in Christmastide — Psalm 8**

- 1 O Lord our God,  
    how glorious is your name in all the earth:  
    from the lips of infants and children,  
    your praises reach up to the heavens.
- 2 You have set up a stronghold  
    against your adversaries:  
    to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 3 When I look up at the heavens,  
    the work of your fingers:  
    the moon and the  
    stars you have set in their places,
- 4 what are we mortals,  
    that you should be mindful of us:  
    mere human beings  
    that you should care for us?
- 5 You have made us little less than divine:  
    and crowned us with glory and honour.
- 6 You made us rulers over all your creation:  
    and put all things in subjection under our feet,
- 7 all sheep and cattle:  
    and all the creatures of the wild,
- 8 the birds of the air and the fish in the sea:  
    and all that make their way through the waters.
- 9 O Lord our God:  
    how glorious is your name in all the earth.

*God in Trinity,  
Creator, Saviour, Giver of life and truth,  
reveal the possibilities within us,  
that we may attain to the fulness of our humanity. Amen.*

**Week 2 and Mondays in Christmastide — Psalm 85**

- 1 Lord you were once gracious to your land:  
    you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- 2 You forgave the offence of your people:  
    and covered all their sin.
- 3 You put away all your displeasure:  
    and turned from your bitter wrath.
- 4 Restore us again O God our saviour:  
    and let your anger cease from us:
- 5 Will you be displeased at us for ever:  
    will you prolong your wrath  
    from one generation to another?
- 6 Will you not revive us again:  
    so that your people may rejoice in you?
- 7 Show us your mercy O Lord:  
    and give us your saving help.
- 8 Let me hear what you will say O Lord:  
    for you will speak peace to your people,  
    to your servants

whose hearts are turned to you.

- 9 For deliverance is at hand for those who fear you:  
so that your glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and faithfulness have met together:  
justice and peace have embraced each other.
- 11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground:  
and righteousness will look down from heaven.
- 12 You Lord will give prosperity:  
and our land shall yield its harvest.
- 13 Justice shall go before you:  
and the path for your feet shall be peace.

*Gracious God,  
may your people abide in secure dwellings  
and in quiet resting places,  
where the fruit of righteousness is peace  
and your blessing abounds. Amen.*

**Week 3 & Tuesdays in Christmastide — Psalm 112**

- 1 Whakamoemitiā a Ihowa. / Praise the Lord.  
Blessèd are those who fear the Lord:  
and greatly delight in God's commandments.
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land:  
the children of the upright will be blessed.
- 3 Riches and plenty shall fill their houses:  
righteousness shall be theirs for ever.
- 4 They are a light in the darkness for the upright:  
being gracious compassionate and just.
- 5 It goes well with those  
who are generous in lending:  
who conduct their affairs with justice.
- 6 For the righteous will never be shaken:  
they will be kept in remembrance for ever.
- 7 They will not live in fear of bad news:  
because with steadfast heart  
they trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is steady, they will not fear:  
in the end  
they shall see their enemies' downfall.
- 9 They give freely to the poor:  
their righteousness stands for ever,  
and they will hold up their head  
with honour.
- 10 The wicked will be vexed when they see it:  
they will grind their teeth and slink away,  
for the hopes of the wicked  
shall come to nothing.

*Jesus, Son of God,  
thank you for all who strive for holiness;  
grant us also a readiness to strive  
and an obedience to suffer,  
for the joy of being one with you. Amen.*

**Week 4 & Wednesday in Christmastide — Psalm 19**

- 1 The heavens proclaim the glory of God:  
and the vault of the sky  
reveals God's handiwork.
- 2 One day speaks to another:  
and night shares its knowledge with night,
- 3 and this without speech or language:  
their voices are not heard.
- 4 But their sound goes out into all lands:  
their words to the ends of the earth.
- 5 In them God has pitched a tent for the sun:  
which comes out like a bridegroom,  
like an athlete eager to run a race.
- 6 Its rising is at one end of the sky,  
it runs its course to the other:  
and there is nothing that is hidden  
from its heat.
- 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul:  
the instruction of the Lord is sure,  
and gives wisdom to the simple.
- 8 The precepts of the Lord are right,  
and rejoice the heart:  
the commandment of the Lord is  
pure and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures forever:  
the judgments of the Lord are true  
and righteous every one.
- 10 They are more to be desired than gold,  
even much fine gold:  
sweeter also than honey,  
pure honey from the comb.
- 11 By them is your servant taught:  
and for keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can discern unwitting sins?:  
O cleanse me from my secret faults.
- 13 Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins,  
lest they get the better of me:  
then shall I be clean,  
and innocent of great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth  
and the thoughts of my heart:  
be acceptable in your sight,  
O Lord my strength and my redeemer.

*Everloving God,  
your Son was revealed that he might overcome evil  
and make us heirs of eternal life;  
grant that we who have this hope in us  
may purify ourselves as he is pure,  
that when he appears in power and great glory,  
we may be made like him,  
to the honour of your name;  
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,*

*one God now and for ever. Amen.*

**Week 5 & Thursdays in Christmastide — Psalm 113**

- 1 Whakamoemititia a Ihowa. / Praise the Lord.  
O praise the Lord, you servants of the Lord:  
O praise the name of the Lord.
- 2 Blessèd be the name of the Lord:  
both now and for evermore.
- 3 The Lord's name be praised:  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 4 The Lord is high above the nations:  
and the glory of the Lord above the heavens.
- 5 Who can be likened to the Lord our God,  
who sits enthroned on high:  
yet deigns to look down from heaven to earth?
- 6 The Lord lifts the weak out of the dust:  
and raises the poor from the dung heap,
- 7 to make them sit with princes:  
with the princes of God's people.
- 8 The Lord gives the barren woman a home:  
and makes her the joyful mother of children.  
Whakamoemititia a Ihowa. / O praise the Lord.

*Thanksgiving, blessing and praise be yours,  
God of the incarnation;  
because you care for us and for our prayer.  
May our love for you and our likeness to you  
be strengthened every time we pray. Amen.*

**Week 6 & Friday in Christmastide — Psalm 20**

- 1 May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble:  
the name of the God of Jacob defend you,
- 2 send you help from the sanctuary:  
and give you support from the holy mountain.
- 3 May the Lord remember all your offerings:  
and accept your burnt sacrifices,
- 4 grant you your heart's desire:  
and give success to all your plans,
- 5 so that we may rejoice in your victory,  
and triumph in the name of our God:  
because the Lord has granted all your petitions.
- 6 Now I know O Lord  
that you help your anointed king,  
and will answer him from your holy heaven:  
with the victorious might  
of your right hand.
- 7 Some put their trust in chariots,  
and some in horses:  
but we will trust in the  
name of the Lord our God.
- 8 They will totter and fall:  
but we shall rise and stand upright.
- 9 O Lord save the king:

and answer us when we call.

*God our life,  
be with us through this day,  
whether or not it brings us joy.  
Help us when evening comes  
to recall one benefit,  
for which to give you thanks. Amen.*

**Week 7 & Saturdays in Christmastide —**

**from Psalm 147**

- 12 Praise the Lord O Jerusalem:  
    O holy city praise your God.
- 13 For the Lord has strengthened  
    the bars of your gates:  
    and blessed your children within you.
- 14 The Lord has established peace  
    within your borders:  
    and fed you amply with the finest wheat.
- 15 You O Lord send your word to the earth:  
    and your command runs very swiftly.
- 16 You give snow like wool:  
    and sprinkle hoar-frost like ashes.
- 17 You scatter hail stones like breadcrumbs:  
    you send the cold, and the waters stand frozen.
- 18 You utter your word and the ice is melted:  
    you blow with your wind and the waters flow.
- 19 You make known your word to Jacob:  
    your statutes and decrees to Israel.
- 20 You have not done this for any other nation:  
    nor have you taught them your laws.  
    Whakamoemititia a Ihowa. / O praise the Lord.

*God of earth and heaven,  
on your Church the sun is always rising;  
we commend to you our sisters and brothers throughout the  
world.  
Be with them in the work they do,  
as you are with us. Amen.*

*THE NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE*

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

*Either: THE FIRST-BORN OF ALL CREATION*

- 1 Christ is the image of the invisible God:  
    the first-born of all creation.
- 2 In him all things in heaven and on earth  
    were created:  
    all that is seen and all that is unseen,
- 3 thrones and dominions,  
    principalities and powers:  
    through him and for him  
    all things were created.
- 4 He exists before everything:  
    and all things are held together in him.

- 5 He is the head of the body the Church:  
he is its beginning, the first-born from the dead,  
to be in all things alone supreme.
- 6 For in Christ O God you were pleased  
to have all your fullness dwell:  
and through him to reconcile the universe  
to yourself.
- 7 You made peace by the blood of his cross:  
and brought back to yourself  
all things in heaven and earth.

*Colossians 1.15-20*

**Glory to . . .**

*Or: THE PROLOGUE OF JOHN - OR INCLUSIVE VERSION*

- 1 In the beginning was the Word:  
and the Word was with God;
- 2 and the Word was God:  
he was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made through him:  
and without him  
was not anything made that was made.
- 4 In him was life:  
and the life was the light of the human race.
- 5 The light shines in the darkness:  
and the darkness has never overcome it.
- 6 He was in the world,  
and the world was made through him:  
yet the world knew him not.
- 7 He came to his own home:  
and his own people would not receive him.
- 8 But to all who received him,  
who believed on his name:  
he has given power to become children of God.
- 9 They were born not of blood,  
nor of the will of the flesh:  
nor of any human will, but of God.
- 10 And the Word became flesh:  
and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.
- 11 We have seen his glory:  
glory as of the only Son from the Father.
- 12 And from his fullness we have all received:  
even grace upon grace.

*John 1.1-5, 10-14, 16*

**Glory to . . .**

*Or Song of Praise L. A SONG OF TRUE MOTHERHOOD*

*Or Song of Praise A. THE LOVE OF GOD*

**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:*

The Word of Life which was from the beginning,

## **We proclaim to you.**

THE GOSPEL CANTICLE: THE BENEDICTUS

*Refrain:*

**God, you promised to remember your holy covenant\*  
and you raised up for us a mighty Saviour.**

*Or, in Christmastide:*

**To us is born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,\*  
and all the heavenly hosts now sing,  
Glory to God in the highest!**

*Or, on feasts of the BVM:*

**In the womb of Mary,  
you found a dwelling place on earth, O Christ,\*  
remain for ever in our hearts.**

The Song of Zechariah

- 1 Blessèd are you O Lord our God:  
you have come to your people and set them free.
- 2 You have raised up for us a mighty Saviour:  
born of the house of your servant David.
- 3 Through your holy prophets you promised of old:  
that you would save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all who hate us.
- 4 You promised to show mercy to our forebears:  
and to remember your holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath you swore to our father  
Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 free to worship you without fear:  
holy and righteous in your sight  
all the days of our life.
- 7 And you, child, shall be called  
the prophet of the Most High:  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare  
the way,
- 8 to give God's people knowledge of salvation:  
through the forgiveness of their sins.
- 9 In the tender compassion of our God:  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
- 10 to shine on those who dwell in darkness  
and the shadow of death:  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**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]:*

O Lord, you are the king of glory:  
help us at the break of day.

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

You love righteousness and justice:  
may your loving kindness fill the earth.

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

Hear our cry, O God,  
and listen to our prayer.

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

*THE COLLECT of the day, or for Wednesdays*

O God,  
the author of peace and lover of concord;  
to know you is eternal life,  
to serve you is perfect freedom.  
Defend us your servants in every stress and danger, that we may trust in your  
defence  
and not fear the power of any adversaries;  
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer . . .

*The Collect for Christmastide:*

O God,  
you wonderfully created  
and yet more wonderfully restored  
the dignity of human nature;  
grant that we may share the divine life  
of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer follows*

Rejoicing in the presence of God among us  
and as Christ teaches us we pray . . .

## THE CONCLUSION

THE BLESSING

**The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.  
Amen.**

*ko tēnei rānei*

**Ma te Atua o te tūmanako,  
e whakaū ō tātou ngākau  
ki te koa, ki te rangimārie  
kia pono ai tātou,  
i runga i te ihi, i te mana,  
o te Wairua Tapu. Amine.**

*Or, in Christmastide:*

**May the grace of Christ our Saviour be with us all. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**