

O Lord, open our lips

**All and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

**All according to your judgement give us life.**

*A Song of Penitence*

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness; ♦  
according to the abundance of your compassion  
blot out my offences.
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness ♦  
and cleanse me from my sin.
- 3 For I acknowledge my faults ♦  
and my sin is ever before me.
- 4 Against you only have I sinned ♦  
and done what is evil in your sight,
- 5 So that you are justified in your sentence ♦  
and righteous in your judgement.
- 6 Cast me not away from your presence ♦  
and take not your holy spirit from me.
- 7 Give me again the joy of your salvation ♦  
and sustain me with your gracious spirit;
- 8 Then shall I teach your ways to the wicked ♦  
and sinners shall return to you.
- 9 Deliver me from my guilt, O God,  
the God of my salvation, ♦  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.

*Psalm 51.1–5,12–15*

*This 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 is 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.

**All** Amen.

## The Word of God

*Psalmody*

*The appointed psalmody from the Bible In One Year is said.*

*New Testament*

*The New Testament reading from the BIOY is said.*

*Canticle*

*The Benedictus (The Song of Zechariah)*

**All** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ◆  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ◆  
born of the house of his servant David.
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old ◆  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors, ◆  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ◆  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
- 6 Free to worship him without fear, ◆  
holy and righteous in his 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 his way,

- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦  
by the forgiveness of all 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.

*Luke 1.68–79*

## **Prayers**

*Intercessions are offered*

¶ *for the day and its tasks*

¶ *for the world and its needs*

¶ *for the Church and her life*

*Monday: Pray for the vulnerable in our city and for our Mercy Ministries*

*Tuesday: for the Children and Young people of our City*

*Wednesday: Pray for Alpha and for people to come to faith*

*Thursday: For our Students and Young Adults*

*Friday: Pray for our Fellowship Groups and our life together as a church*

*Saturday: Pray for all those in need in our communities*

*Sunday: Pray for the church across our city that we would work together in unity*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

Trusting in the compassion of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All** 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 Conclusion**

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

**All** Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.