**Morning Prayer 10.12.23**

“I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.” *Psalm 130:5*

**Opening Sentences**

O Lord open our lips **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

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**.

**Song – Glory in the Highest**

As we bow down  
Be lifted high  
As we bow down  
Be lifted high

*We sing glory glory in the highest…*

You alone are worthy   
You alone deserve the highest praise  
We bow down to worship  
We bow down to seek You in this place

*We sing glory glory in the highest  
Glory in the highest glory to our God*  
(REPEAT)

For Your love and mercy  
For the beauty of Your saving grace  
We have come to thank You  
We have come to worship You today

*We sing glory glory in the highest…*

**Advent Candle Prayer**

Each week in Advent we light a candle to remind us that Jesus brings light and hope into our world. No matter how uncertain or chaotic the world may seem, that light still shines through.

As we light our advent candle

**Light of the world, shine on us.**

As we prepare for Christmas time

**Light of the world, shine on us.**

In this world of pain and darkness

**Light of the world, shine through us.**

To all the people who don’t know you,

**Light of the world, shine through us.**

Jesus you are coming again,

**Light of the world, light the way.**

In our service here today

**Light of the world, light the way.**

**Bible Reading – Psalm 85: 8-13**

**8**Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,  
    for he will speak peace to his people,  
    to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.   
**9**Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,  
    that his glory may dwell in our land.

**10**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;  
    righteousness and peace will kiss each other.  
**11**Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,  
    and righteousness will look down from the sky.  
**12**The Lord will give what is good,  
    and our land will yield its increase.  
**13**Righteousness will go before him,  
    and will make a path for his steps.

**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.**

**Bible reading – Mark 1: 1-8**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,   
    who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
    “Prepare the way of the Lord,  
    make his paths straight”’,

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you withwater; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Talk**

**Prayers**

*In our prayers we will pray for the world, the church, our local community, and for those who are in need.*

*At the end of each section, we say:*

Lord in Your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**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**

**News**

**Conclusion**

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

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Online Giving**

Everything we do in mission and ministry is made possible by the generous support of our church family. We encourage everyone who is a regular member of St Marys to join our planned giving scheme (standing order) as this helps us to plan and budget.

You can now make donations online as a one off or regular gifts, and every penny goes back into enabling our mission and ministry.

Details of how to give online or join the planned giving scheme can be found online @ [www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving](http://www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving)