

## Morning Prayer for St Patrick's Day - 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021

*You may wish to light a candle while we pray*

I will say of the Lord,  
    'He is my refuge and my fortress,

Psalm 91:2

### 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.**

### Psalm 91: 1 – 4 &, 13 - end

- <sup>1</sup> Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
    will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
- <sup>2</sup> I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress,  
    my God, in whom I trust.'
- <sup>3</sup> Surely he will save you  
    from the fowler's snare  
    and from the deadly pestilence.
- <sup>4</sup> He will cover you with his feathers,  
    and under his wings you will find refuge;  
    his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the cobra;  
    you will trample the great lion and the serpent.
- <sup>14</sup> 'Because he loves me,' says the Lord, 'I will rescue him;  
    I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name.'

- <sup>15</sup> He will call on me, and I will answer him;  
I will be with him in trouble,  
I will deliver him and honour him.  
<sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy him  
and show him my salvation.'

**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: Luke 10: 1, 1-12 & 17-20**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. <sup>2</sup> He told them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. <sup>3</sup> Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. <sup>4</sup> Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

<sup>5</sup> 'When you enter a house, first say, "Peace to this house." <sup>6</sup> If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.

<sup>8</sup> 'When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. <sup>9</sup> Heal those there who are ill and tell them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." <sup>10</sup> But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> "Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: the kingdom of God has come near." <sup>12</sup> I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy and said, 'Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.'

<sup>18</sup> He replied, 'I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. <sup>20</sup> However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Prayers**

Almighty God,  
who in your providence chose your servant Patrick  
to be the apostle of the Irish people:  
keep alive in us the fire of the faith he kindled  
and strengthen us in our pilgrimage towards the light of  
everlasting life;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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.**

*Space will be left for personal intercessory prayer – either silent or out loud.*

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

We say together the prayer which Jesus 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.**

### **The 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.**

*Please do stay on for virtual coffee and a catch up if you can.*



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