

## PRAYERS

*As the community of the Benefice of Glastonbury with Meare, apart and part of the whole, in isolation and in communion, near and far, together we pray . . .*



## COLLECT

### 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

### THE CONCLUSION

May God who raises us  
show us compassion and love. **Amen.**

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



*Material from: Common Worship, The Iona Community, Jim Cotter, Peter Millar, Janet Morley, The New Zealand Prayer Book, The St Hilda Community, Ray Simpson*

**You can also find copies of the Daily Office and suggested readings on St John's website under 'LatestNews'**

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# The Benefice of Glastonbury with Meare

## Holding on to the Silence

## Lent 2020

### The Daily Office

**Morning @ 8.30am ~ Midday @ 12 noon  
Evening @ 5.45pm ~ Night @ 9.00pm**



Be silent.	God knows,
Be still.	Understands,
Alone,	Loves you with
Empty	An enormous love.
Before your God	God only wants to
Say nothing.	Look upon you
Ask nothing.	With Love.
Be silent.	Quiet.
Be still.	Still.
Let your God	Be.
Look upon you.	Let your God –
That is all.	Love you. <i>Edwina Gateley</i>

*A candle may be lit at the start of the prayer or you may like to hold an object with which to pray.*

### PREPARATION

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

We come before your presence  
**You who are common to us all.**

### *Morning:*

**O God, Creator of Light;  
at the rising of your sun this morning,  
let the greatest of all light, your love,  
rise like the sun within our hearts  
and set your blessing upon us  
as we begin this day together,  
united in prayer and thanksgiving.**

*Noon:*

God in the midst, come close to us,  
and help us to come close to you,  
as, for a fraction of time, we step back  
from the activities and demands of the  
day. So if, as this day goes on, we forget  
you, do not forget us, O God.

*Evening:*

Holy One, you have brought us through  
this day to a time of reflection.  
Make us wise in our understanding,  
open in our listening, generous in our  
giving and vulnerable in our sharing.

*Night:*

It is night after a long day.  
What has been done is done; what has not  
been done has not been done; let it be. Let  
us be still in the presence of God. Let the  
quietness of God's peace enfold us and let  
us look expectantly to a new day, new joys  
and new possibilities.

#### CANTICLE

My soul thirsts for you,  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land  
where there is no water.

For your loving kindness is better  
than life itself,  
my lips shall give you praise.

For you have been my helper  
and under the shadow of your wings  
I will rejoice.

My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory to God, Source of all Being,  
Eternal Word and Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now  
and shall be forever. Amen.

#### INTRODUCTION TO READINGS

Spirit of Wisdom,  
take from us all fuss,  
the clattering of noise,  
the temptation to dominate by  
the power of words,  
the craving for certainty.  
Lead us through the narrow gate of  
not knowing,  
that we may listen and obey,  
and come to a place of silence and stillness,  
of true conversation and wisdom. *Jim Cotter*

#### READINGS

##### SILENCE

*Morning:*

O God our Creator  
your kindness has brought us  
the gift of a new morning.  
Help us to leave yesterday  
and not to covet tomorrow,  
but to embrace and accept  
the uniqueness of today.

*Noon:*

Throughout this day, enliven our minds,  
inspire our conversation,  
inform our decisions and protect those  
we love. And should today bring what we  
neither anticipate nor desire,  
increase our faith and decrease our pride  
until we know that when we face the  
unexpected, we do not stand alone.

*Evening:*

For the roots of our community,  
for what we share together,  
for the path that lies before us now  
and our future in your hands,  
we give you thanks and praise.

*Night:*

May God bless us  
in our sleep with rest,  
in our dreams with vision,  
in our waking with a calm mind,  
in our soul with the friendship of  
the Holy Spirit, this night and  
every night.