

The United Benefice of Headcorn and the Suttons



Services for use
When at home or alone

Isaiah 41:10

*10 So do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Morning Prayer

Common Worship

Opening Prayer

Praise our God, all you his servants:
Those who fear him, both small and great.

Please take the time to be silent and still your heart

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.
Amen

Prayers of Penitence

God shows his love for us
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Let us then show our love for him
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

cf Romans 5.8

Silence is kept

God our Father,
long-suffering, full of grace and truth,
you create us from nothing and give us life.
You give your faithful people new life in the water
of baptism.
You do not turn your face from us,
nor cast us aside.
We confess that we have sinned
against you and our neighbour.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
Restore us for the sake of your Son,
and bring us to heavenly joy,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

May almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Bible Readings

You may like to spend some time reflecting on these readings

- *What strikes you most about them?*
- *Was there anything that surprised you or made you think?*
- *Is there anything that might impact on the way you live your life today or in the future?*

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Intercessions

Heavenly Father,
Enter my house and take away all my worries and fears.
And please protect all those I love and care for,
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Please now pray as you feel lead for:

- *The day and it's tasks*
- *The world and it's needs*
- *The Church and her life*
- *Anything or anyone else that may be concerning you at the moment*

God of mercy,
you know us and love us
and hear our prayer:
keep us in the eternal fellowship of
Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God, as our saviour taught us, so we
prayer.

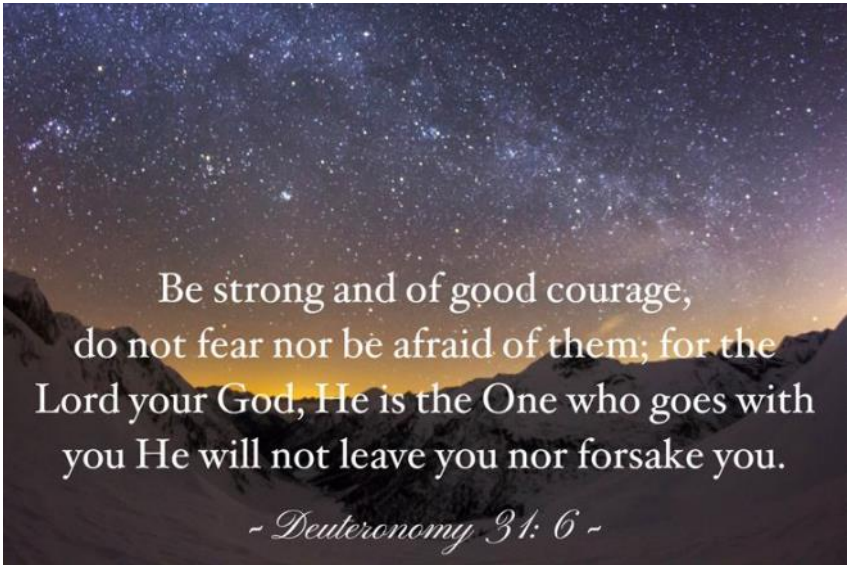
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Final Prayer

Heavenly Father,
we share together the blessing of your presence.
Give us in this life knowledge of your truth,
and in the world to come life everlasting;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Conclusion

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.



Be strong and of good courage,
do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the
Lord your God, He is the One who goes with
you He will not leave you nor forsake you.

- Deuteronomy 31: 6 -

Morning Prayer

Celtic

Opening Prayers

The God of love is with us.
The Spirit of love is in us.

Blessed are you, O Christ, Light of the world.
You descend into our darkness to lift us into the realm of light.

Prayer

You are above us, O God
You are beneath
You are in the air
You are in earth
You are beside us
You are within
God of Heaven,
You have made your home on earth
in the broken body of Creation.
Kindle within us
A love for you in all things.

Be still and aware of God's Presence
Within and all around.

Prayers of repentance

Jesus, forgive my sins.
Forgive the sins I can remember,
and also the sins I have forgotten.
Forgive the wrong actions I have committed,
and the right actions I have omitted.
Forgive the times I have been weak in the face of temptation,
and those when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.
Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements,
and those when I have failed to boast your works.

Forgive the harsh judgements I have made of others,
and the leniency I have shown myself.
Forgive the lies I have told others,
and the truths I have avoided.
Forgive me the pain I have caused others,
and the indulgence I have shown to myself.
Jesus have pity on me, and make me whole.

God forgives me.
Forgive others;
forgive myself.

Lord, be with me this day,
Within me to purify me;
Above me to draw me up;
Beneath me to sustain me;
Before me to lead me;
Behind me to restrain me
Around me to protect me. Amen

Bible Readings

You may like to spend some time reflecting on these readings

- *What strikes you most about them?*
- *Was there anything that surprised you or made you think?*
- *Is there anything that might impact on the way you live your life today or in the future?*

Creed

We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.
We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present,
and his kingdom will come on earth.
We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life.
Amen.

Prayers

Please now pray as you feel lead for:

- *The day and it's tasks*
- *The world and it's needs*
- *The Church and her life*
- *Anything or anyone else that may be concerning you at the moment*

The Lords Prayer

**Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that 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.**

Closing Prayer

Lord, may we be wakeful at sunrise to begin a new day for you,
Cheerful at sunset for having spent this time with you;
Thankful at moonrise and under starshine for the beauty of your
universe;
And may we add what little may be in us to add to your great world.
Amen

Blessing

May the eyes of the Creator behold you,
May the hands of the Saviour uphold you,
May the arms of the Spirit enfold you.



May the God of hope fill
you with all joy and peace
as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow
with hope by the power
of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

An order for Compline

(Night Prayer)

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end.
Amen.

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth.

A period of silence for reflection on the past day may follow.

The following or other suitable words of penitence may be used

Most merciful God,
we confess to you,
before the whole company of heaven and one another,
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed
and in what we have failed to do.
Forgive us our sins,
heal us by your Spirit
and raise us to new life in Christ. Amen.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

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 following or another suitable hymn may be sung

Before the ending of the day,
Creator of the world, we pray
That you, with steadfast love, would keep
Your watch around us while we sleep.

From evil dreams defend our sight,
From fears and terrors of the night;
Tread underfoot our deadly foe
That we no sinful thought may know.

O Father, that we ask be done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son;
And Holy Spirit, by whose breath
Our souls are raised to life from death.

The Word of God—Psalm:139.1-18

- 1 You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.
- 2 You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.
- 3 You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.
- 4 Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.
- 5 You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.
- 7 Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
- 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
10 even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me
and the light become night around me,"
12 even the darkness will not be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to you.
- 13 For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
your works are wonderful,
I know that full well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes saw my unformed body;

all the days ordained for me were written in your book
before one of them came to be.

17 How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

18 Were I to count them,
they would outnumber the grains of sand—
when I awake, I am still with you.

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.

Scripture Reading

One of the following short lessons or another suitable passage is read

You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name;
leave us not, O Lord our God. *Jeremiah 14.9*

(or)

Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil is prowling
round like a roaring lion, seeking for someone to devour. Resist him,
strong in the faith. *1 Peter 5.8,9*

(or)

The servants of the Lamb shall see the face of God, whose name will
be on their foreheads. There will be no more night: they will not
need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for God will be their
light, and they will reign for ever and ever. *Revelation 22.4,5*

The following may be said

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.
I commend my spirit.

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.
Keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me under the shadow of your wings.

The Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is said or sung

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

1. Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

2 My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

3 A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2.29-32

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.

Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.

Prayers

- *The night that is to come*
- *The world and its needs*
- *The Church and her life*
- *Anything or anyone else that may be concerning you at the moment*

Silence may be kept.

Almighty God,
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son,
help us to see and know your love for us,
so that in humility, love and joy
we may place at his feet
all that we have and all that we are;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The Lord's Prayer may be said.

Our Father, which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy will be done in earth,
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that 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

In peace we I lie down and sleep;
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.
Abide with me, Lord Jesus,
for the night is at hand and the day is now past.
As the night watch looks for the morning,
so do we look for you, O Christ.
May God bless us,
that in us may be found love and humility,
obedience and thanksgiving,
discipline, gentleness and peace.





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