

Peterborough Diocese Service, November 2020

(ideally to be followed alongside the YouTube video)

Theme 'Seek first the kingdom of God' Matthew 6:3



Welcoming Words & Prayer

Our Father,

We thank you that you welcome us into your family, we thank you that you proudly and loudly proclaim over each one of us 'mine'. We think back over our journey of life with you, and we ask you to bring to mind those times when you have felt very close, we ask you to remind us when we knew the reality of your promise to never leave us, and as we gather to worship you today we ask for your loving reassurance that you will never forsake us.

Forgive us for the times when we turn from you and thank you that you are always waiting patiently for us to turn back and seek your face.

We turn to you now Lord, and rejoice in your unfailing presence, Father, Son, & Holy Spirit, Amen.

Song - Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And His righteousness,
And all these things, shall be added
unto you. Allelu, alleluia

Man shall not live by bread alone,
But by every word

That proceeds from the mouth of
God. Allelu, Alleluia

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and ye shall find.

Knock and the door shall be opened
unto you. Allelu, Alleluia

Bible Reading – Matthew 6:25-34

Words inspired by St Patrick's Breastplate

Christ, as a light
illumine and guide me.

Christ, as a shield
overshadow me.
Christ under me;
Christ over me;
Christ beside me
on my left and my right.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;
in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.
This day be within and without me,
lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.
Christ as a light;
Christ as a shield;
Christ beside me
on my left and my right.

Song – *Breathe on me breath of God*

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost
love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.
Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with Thy fire divine.
Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

Prayers

Our Father, we pray for greater trust in you...

Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven

Our Father, we pray for faithfulness in listening to and following your living word each day...

Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven

Our Father, we pray for courage to knock on the doors you indicate, and when they open to walk through following your lead...

Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven

Our Father, we pray for your help to be with all those who today are in need, in trouble, in sickness, in distress, in fear this day...

Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day 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 yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen.

Blessing

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever He may send you.

May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.

May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.

May He bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you this day, with all those you love,
and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending

Trusting in the one who holds you by the right hand,

Come Jesus, let us go together, Amen.

Song – Longing for Light

Longing for light, we wait in
darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy
people,

Light for the world to see.

Refrain:

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our
hearts,*

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is
troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save
us.

Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

Many the gifts, many the people,

Many the hearts that yearn to
belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

Making your kingdom

come. (Refrain)

Some material in this service has been taken from the Northumbrian Community *Celtic Daily Prayer (Book One) The Journey Begins*.

Finger Prayer Labyrinth

Labyrinths are ancient pathways found across the world. The winding path helps us to slow down, to let go of worries and cares, to seek God's kingdom, and rest there awhile...

Finger labyrinths can be used for prayerful reflection when it is not possible to walk a full-sized labyrinth

There is no right or wrong way to a labyrinth... no set pace... just follow the path in your own time...



Let nothing disturb thee, nothing affright thee;
all things are passing, God never changeth.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:8