**worshipping together while apart**

**Morning Prayer for Wednesdays during Lent**

*This is an order of service for Wednesday mornings so that we may continue to worship together. Please use it with the reflection which has been written for you by one of our preachers who has also provided ideas for prayers; the reflection sheet will also give you the psalm, the reading and collect. Both the order of service and the reflection will be posted on the Sunnyside and St John’s websites on Tuesdays.*

*If there are two of you, I suggest one person reads leads the service and you both join in with the words in bold.*

*Rebecca*

***Introduction***

O Lord, open our lips

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love,

**according to your judgement give us life.**

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,

to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of our sin,

your light breaks forth like the dawn

and your healing springs up for deliverance.

As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,

sustain us with your bountiful Spirit

and open our lips to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;

**let us pray with one heart and mind.**

*Pause whilst you focus on God’s presence and invite the Holy Spirit to lead you in this act of worship*

**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.**

***Confession***

The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;

a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion,

and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

*Take a moment to bring to mind those things you wish to confess to our heavenly Father this morning.*

**Lord God, we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore us to the joy of your salvation,**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May almighty God,

who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,

bring us his pardon and peace, now and for ever. **Amen.**

***Praise***

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

**O my God, in you I trust.**

You are the God of my salvation,

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

In you I hope all the day long.

**O my God, in you I trust.**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;**

**O my God, in you I trust.**

from Psalm 25

***Ministry of the Word***

*Read the Psalm of the Day*

*Read the Bible reading of the day*

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*Read the reflection on the reading*

What is God saying to you through these readings and reflection?

What does God want you to do about it?

***The Creed***

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth,**

**of all that is,**

**seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,**

**eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light,**

**true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;**

**through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,**

**was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary**

**and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

***Prayers***

*The collect of the day and some suggestions for prayers are on the reflection sheet. Alternatively, you might like to use these prayers*

In the power of the Spirit let us pray to the Father

through Christ the saviour of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For forgiveness for the many times we have denied Jesus,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to seek out those habits of sin

which mean spiritual death,

and by prayer and self-discipline to overcome them,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian people,

that through the suffering of disunity

there may grow a rich union in Christ,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who make laws, interpret them

and administer them,

that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who have the courage and honesty

to work openly for justice and peace,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,

that they may find support and encouragement,

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who, weighed down with hardship,

failure, or sorrow,

feel that God is far from them,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are tempted to give up the way of the cross,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

We gather our prayers together in the words our Saviour taught his disciples to pray

**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.**

***Closing prayer***

**God of compassion,**

**through your Son Jesus Christ**

**you have reconciled your people to yourself.**

**As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,**

**may we obey you with willing hearts**

**and serve one another in holy love;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love, to grow and to serve the Lord

**In the name of Christ, Amen.**

***Coffee***

*Now, why not make yourself a cup of tea or coffee and then ring someone from Sunnyside or St John’s for a chat?*