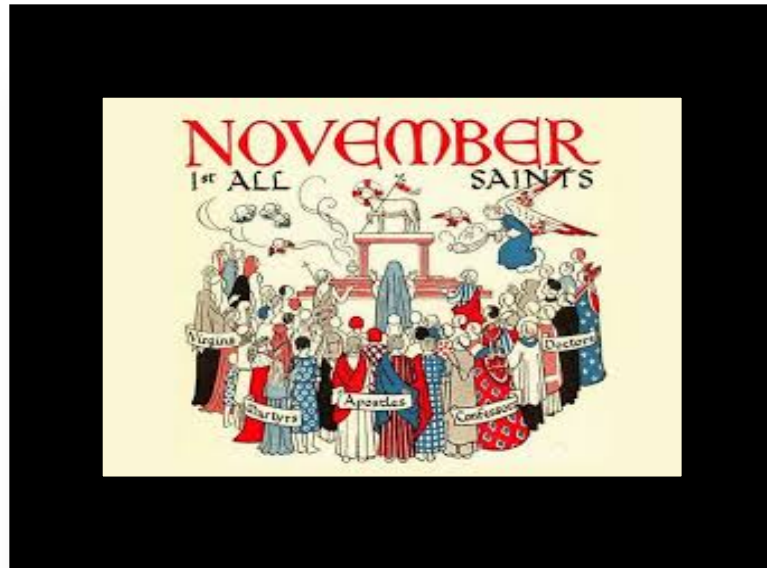


THE CAMEL ALLEN BENEFICE
WORSHIP AT HOME



WELCOME

Welcome to all worshipping at home on this, All Saints Day, as we hold in our hearts and minds all those who have gone before us in the faith of Christ.

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

HYMN

For all the saints, who from their labours rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For the Apostles' glorious company,
Who bearing forth the Cross o'er land and sea,
Shook all the mighty world, we sing to Thee:
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For the Evangelists, by whose blest word,
Like fourfold streams, the garden of the Lord,
Is fair and fruitful, be Thy Name adored.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

For Martyrs, who with rapture kindled eye,
Saw the bright crown descending from the sky,
And seeing, grasped it, Thee we glorify.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
All are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
And hearts are brave, again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on His way.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
And singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia, Alleluia!



WE SAY SORRY TO GOD

Since we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, looking to Jesus in penitence and faith.

All **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,**

through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon *you*,
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,
and keep *you* in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

Let us each bring our own prayers silently before God as we
bring to mind all those who have gone before us in the faith
of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ

Silence



THE COLLECT

God of holiness,
Your glory is proclaimed in every age:
As we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
Inspire us to follow their example
With boldness and joy;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

Revelation 7: 9 - End



⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷ for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

I John 3: 1 - 3

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

HYMN

Behold the Lamb of God!
O Thou for sinners slain,
Let it not be in vain
That Thou hast died:
Thee for my Saviour let me take,
My only refuge let me make
Thy piercèd side.

Behold the Lamb of God!
Into the sacred flood
Of Thy most precious blood
My soul I cast:
Wash me and make me clean within,
And keep me pure from every sin,
Till life be past.

Behold the Lamb of God!
All hail, incarnate Word,
Thou everlasting Lord,
Saviour most blessed;
Fill us with love that never faints,
Grant us with all Thy blessèd saints
Eternal rest.

Behold the Lamb of God!
Worthy is He alone
To sit upon the Throne
Of God above;
One with the Ancient of all days,
One with the Comforter in praise,
All Light and Love.



Alleluia, alleluia.
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
A holy nation, God's own people,
Called out of darkness into his marvellous light.
All: Alleluia.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

Matthew 5: 1 - 12

5 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



TALK

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

It is All Saints Day today: the day when we focus on all those, known and unknown, who have already died in the faith of Christ and passed into the blessed state of those who are destined for the eternal life which we, as Christians, are promised.

We are not talking about those very special people who have been canonised as Saints by the Church. Someone once said that a Saint is a sinner whose life history has not been researched sufficiently thoroughly. No, a saint is an ordinary Christian believer. You and me, we are saints. It is our belief in the infinite capacity of God for forgiveness of our transgressions, and in the redemption which Christ bought for us on the Cross, which washes away our sins and turns each of us into a "saint".

When we say the Apostles' Creed, which we will do today to affirm our faith, we speak of the communion of saints: all the believers throughout history, alive or dead, who together form the body of Christ. And we, as living Christians, are the members of that body on earth and, as such, a part of that holy community.

Our Gospel reading was the well known passage, often called “the Beatitudes”, in which Jesus describes those who are blessed: mourners will be comforted, for example, and the meek will inherit the earth; but it is only the pure in heart who, he says, will see God.

What will that be like? We cannot know: as St Paul said, when he wrote to the Corinthians, now we see as in a glass darkly, then we will see face to face. St. John says, in our Epistle, we believers, we saints, are God’s adopted children now: but what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know, says John, is that, when Christ is revealed again to us, we will be like him and we will see him as he truly is.

This is the great Christian hope: and, John claims, all who have this hope in Christ purify themselves. Simply through this belief and trust in Jesus, we purify ourselves and become pure in heart: and, thus, among those who have been assured by Jesus himself that we will see God.

In our New Testament reading from the Book of Revelation, St John describes a vision. It is a way of describing in human terms that which is truly indescribable: that which, as St Paul says, we can only glimpse as through a glass darkly.

In this vision a great multitude from every nation, tribe and language, without cultural or racial distinction, is gathered together, robed in white with palm branches in their hands,

standing in the presence of God. The white symbolises their purity but it was also, in the Greco-Roman culture of the day, a symbol of victory. A Roman general would celebrate a triumph robed in white. The palm branches are also symbols of joy in victory. That is why the people waved them exuberantly on Palm Sunday as they hailed Jesus as the Messiah.

In John’s vision he is told by one of the elders that this great multitude are the ones who have made their robes white by washing them in the blood of the Lamb.

That is not an easy image: you don’t make your robes white by washing them in blood. But what John means is that the sacrificial blood of Christ on the Cross has washed them clean of their sins and made them pure in heart so that they can see God. And, because of this, they will never again be hungry or thirsty. Christ himself will lead them to the springs of living water, the source of eternal life, and, however great the troubles they may have suffered in this life, God will, at the end, wipe away every tear from their eyes.

So, let us pray that we may be strengthened in our belief and trust in Jesus so that we may be made pure in heart and, in the fullness of our time, become part of that great multitude, robed in white and waving our own palm branches of victory and joy. **Amen.**

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

All **I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYERS

Let us pray to God, whose saints have witnessed to his glory:



May your church, built on the foundation of the saints, be faithful to the teaching of Jesus, so that in all her life she may reveal his likeness. Let our prayers be united with the praise of the blessed in heaven.

We pray for the world that is so often deaf to the only teaching that can bring true Joy.

We pray especially at this time for the American people in the process of choosing their next President. We pray that they will choose wisely and that whoever is chosen will lead the American people, and the world, with integrity, wisdom, compassion and the spirit of reconciliation and peace for all peoples.

We pray for this nation, and all nations affected by the continuing coronavirus pandemic, praying, Lord, that you will lead us through this period of danger and uncertainty and bring us safely to a return to normal life.

Grant to this generation the spirit that inspired the saints, that all may walk in the way of righteousness.

Teach us to recognize the holiness of other people of whatever race, nationality or creed. Give to us, our families and friends, grace to live as Jesus taught his disciples.

Have mercy on all those who are suffering ordeals now, especially those persecuted for the sake of the Gospel. Bring relief to their distress, and the assurance of your blessing for all who are steadfast in faith.

We pray for all who are sick or diseased in body, mind or spirit, holding before you in our own hearts and minds those known to us who are in need of your healing touch.

We pray that you will bring comfort to all who mourn the loss of loved ones. And Lord we pray that you will grant to the faithful departed a share in the inheritance of the saints. As we offer our prayers for them, make their heavenly prayers available for us as we continue on our Earthly pilgrimage. Bring us at last to the same blessedness.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, we pray that our prayers may be sanctified.

**And so, merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **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.

HYMN

He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy follow the Master.
There's no discouragement shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round with dismal stories
Do but themselves confound – his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might; though he with giants fight,
He will make good his right to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end, shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labor night and day to be a pilgrim.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL



God, who has prepared for us a city with
eternal foundations,
Give you grace to share the inheritance
of the saints in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
All Amen.

*CCL Licence 999402, Compiled by the Revd. Jeffrey Terry
based on materials from **Common Worship** © 2000
The Archbishop's Council; Prayers adapted from
Chapman R, *Leading Intercessions* © 2006*