

Worship for Bible Sunday

Please have your Bible and a candle ready for our service

Welcome in the name of Christ! God's grace, mercy and peace be with you.

And also with you

Bible We worship with Christians near and far, living, departed, old and young. God's word is for us all. May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. **Amen**

Candle Christ has bought us out of darkness to dwell in his marvellous light. Jesus, Light of the world, **shine in our hearts, Amen.**

Opening prayer

As God's chosen ones, let us clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. And above all, let us clothe ourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. **Amen**

Prayers of confession

God of all grace, we confess that we have allowed ourselves to be conformed to the mould of the world around us; that our thoughts, our words and our actions this past week have not reflected your love, your kindness and your goodness. Through the death of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, forgive us all of our sins and make us able to stand in your presence once again.

Help us to bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, give us the grace to forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven us, so we also must forgive. And may we do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the God of love bring *us* back to himself, forgive *us our* sins, and assure *us* of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Creed

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.**

Collect

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, help us to hear them, to read, mark and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Reading Colossians 3:12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Reflection

The passage today tells us to clothe ourselves in God's attributes. Is that enough? How can we do that practically in the world in which we live?

Intercessions

Lord, we are thankful to you for your gift of perfect love. Help us to put on the virtue of love, that you may use us to work towards perfect unity. Lord, we are thankful to you for your gift of Jesus, the living Word. We pray that as we read the Bible and allow your Word into our hearts, you may dwell richly in us through your Spirit.

At the end of the prayers, we pray Lord, come to bless us, **And fill us with your Spirit**

The Lord's 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 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 Peace

Jesus said, 'Love one another. As I have loved you, so you are to love one another.' The peace of the Lord be always with you **And also with you**

Blessing and Sending out prayer

Help us to clothe ourselves with your love and your peace in the coming week so that we become a blessing to those we meet. **Amen.**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts and the word of Christ dwell in you richly

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Amen.**