A short order of service for

Evening Prayer and Reflection

Lent 2 - 28th February 2021

https://youtu.be/P6QvRk66Z9k

Introductory Sentence of Scripture:

"For surely I know the plans I have for you' says the Lord,

"plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope"

[Jeremiah 29:11]



As the candle is lit, let us in silence pray that the flame of God's loving presence may spring up in our hearts and transform us by the knowledge of his glory.

Heavenly Father, in our worship lift our hearts in thanksgiving as we confess our sins, hear your word and bring our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord: Amen

We seek God's forgiveness:

For the times we turn away from you: **Father forgive.**

For the times we act against your will: **Father forgive.**

For the times we fail to speak your word: **Father forgive.**

For the times we forget to share your love: **Father forgive.**

For the times we give in to temptations: **Father forgive.**

Merciful Lord, grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, time for amendment of life and bless our new beginnings: Amen

Psalm 23: sung by St Martin's singers

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie In pastures green; He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again, And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff my comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished me In presence of my foes; My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me; And in God's house forevermore, My dwelling place shall be.

A collect for guidance

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: we humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

[Mission of St Clare]

First reading: Matthew 11:28-30

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke *is* easy and My burden is light." [NKJV]

Hymn: 'I heard the voice of Jesus say' sung by St Martin's Singers

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon My breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary and worn and sad;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down, and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk,
Till trav'ling days are done.

[Words: Horatius Bonar pub1846] [Tune: Kingsfold - R V Williams]

A reading from John 14:1-3 which will be followed by a reflection on the hymn:

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

[NKJV]

final said hymn verse [said]:

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"My Father's house above
Has many mansions; I've a place
Prepared for you in love."
I trust in Jesus—in that house,
According to His word,
Redeemed by grace, my soul shall live
Forever with the Lord.

Prayer space:

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and confidence shall be our strength: by the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

During the following short time of prayer there will be silent spaces. Candles will be lit while you offer your own petitions:

Lord Jesus, be present in the broken places of the world and of our lives.....

Lord Jesus, strengthen and reconcile where there is discord and division......

Lord Jesus, comfort the suffering and the bereaved, gather the souls of the departed into your eternal home

Lord Jesus, refresh our weariness, lighten our darkness, be our daystar......



The Lord's Prayer [Traditional]

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 and we forgive those who have trespassed against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever: Amen

The Nunc Dimmitis
Plainsong [arr. Harper]
Sung by St Martin's Singers

Final prayer responses

The Love of Christ surround us,
The Light of Christ lead us
The Peace of Christ fill us
The Power of Christ aid us
The Joy of Christ thrill us
The Peace of Christ be with us
And all whom we hold in prayer
This night and for evermore. Amen

Let us Bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Music to end
Sung by St Martin's Singers
"God be in my head"

[Nicholson]

St James' Church West End CCL 109591 All recorded music used with permission for church use Opening instrumental Sophie Aynsley Hymns with vocals from St Martin-in-the-

Hymns with vocals from St Martin-in-the-Fields St Martin's Singers Ensemble via A Church Near You Resources

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The service video is available via St James' West End You Tube channel https://youtu.be/P6QvRk66Z9k