



**TRINITY CHURCH**  
**(Methodist & United Reformed)**  
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*‘Serving God, serving each other, serving community’*

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18 January 2026

## **10.30am Morning Worship** **led by Revd John Anderson**

**Church Stewards** on duty: Neil Oastler and Malcolm Newton

**Organist:** Chris Caddy

**AV Team:** Pauline Main and Eve Newton

**A special welcome** to friends from All Saints and all other visitors joining us today

There is an **Open Prayer Book** in the Welcome Area for you to enter the name of any situation or person you wish to remember during the service. There is also a **Prayer Box** for requests which, for any reason, need to remain confidential, and each individual will be prayed for by name later in the week, and in confidence, by the Prayer Group.

**Our Jesus & Me (Children’s Group)** will not be meeting today.

Children are welcome to stay in the Service, or take advantage of the toys and activities in the Welcome Area.

You are very welcome to stay for a cup of coffee or tea after today’s service.

thanks to today’s Coffee Rota volunteers:

Paul Newton & Adam Hagar

## Welcome

## Time of Quiet

### Prayers for the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit,  
gift of the Father through his Son, Jesus Christ,  
dwell in us all, open our hearts  
and help us to listen to your voice.

**Holy Spirit, come upon us.**

Holy Spirit, Divine Love,  
source of unity and holiness,  
show us the love of God.

**Holy Spirit, come upon us.**

Holy Spirit, Fire of Love,  
purify us, removing all divisions  
in our hearts, in our communities and in the world,  
and so make us one in Jesus' name.

**Holy Spirit, come upon us.**

Holy Spirit, strengthen our faith in Jesus,  
truly divine and truly human,  
who carried our sins of division to the Cross  
and brought us to communion in his Resurrection

**Holy Spirit, come upon us.**

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
dwell in us that we may become a communion of love and holiness.  
Make us one in you, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen



**Let us build a house where love can dwell**

**StF 409**

## Introduction

### Litany (from the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church)

From Sunrise in the East to Sunset in the West, and throughout the entire Christian world, wherever people call on the name of the Lord in holiness – by their prayers and intercession may the Lord have mercy on us.

Let us beseech God to deliver us from sin and from the temptations of the world. May the Lord accept the vows and supplications of our hearts and count us worthy of his faith and his commandments together with all of his saints.

Almighty Lord our God, raise us to life and have mercy on us.

**Raise us to life, O Lord.**

That the Lord may usher forth this sunlit morning and guide the day ahead in peace; with faith, let us beseech the Lord.

**Grant it, O Lord.**

For an angel of peace to be our guardian, let us ask the Lord.

**Grant it, O Lord.**

For the pardon and forgiveness of our transgressions, let us ask the Lord.

**Grant it, O Lord.**

For the great and mighty power of the holy Cross to help us, let us ask the Lord.

**Grant it, O Lord.**

Once again, for our true and holy faith, all together, let us beseech the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us commit ourselves and one another to the almighty Lord our God.

**We commit ourselves to you, O Lord.**

Have mercy on us, Lord our God, in your great mercy.

Let us all say together as one:

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

From Sunrise in the East to Sunset in the West, blessed are you, O Lord, because you are King, and your name is revered throughout the universe. Let our psalmody resound sweetly in your hearing. Let justice dawn from your righteousness and rise over our frailty, and may your most holy name be glorified. Let us become worthy to abide by your commandments and to sing praise and glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

**Amen.**

Peace to all.

**And with your spirit.**

*The people may exchange a suitable greeting of peace.*

Let us bow down to God.

**Before you, O Lord.**

Everlasting God, Eternal God, you dawned as light in this world and you illumined us from the darkness of our sin. Infinite God, you came into our finite existence, abundantly pouring out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on your creatures. Now and for all eternity you are extolled, most great God, with the Father and the most Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

**Amen.**

**Reading**

**Isaiah 58: 6 - 11**



**Summoned by the God who made us**

**StF 689**

**Reading**

**Ephesians 4: 1 - 13**

**Reading**

**John 12: 31 - 36**



**Longing for light**

**StF 706**

**Sermon**

**Prayer of Commitment**

Gracious Lord, God of all,  
Guide for the lost, Light for those in darkness.  
Our eyes turn to you, hear our prayers.

May the sun of your glory shine forth, giving life and light to all, from the East to the West, and from the North to the South. Let the morning rays of your eternal spring awaken us who await your coming.

O Jesus Christ, Light from the Light, dwell within us, who have come together to worship your holy and precious name. Let your life-giving radiance kindle within us a deeper love for one another. May your brilliant light stir us to ever more flourishing unity. Like diverse flowers in the garden of your Kingdom, may your divine brilliance cause us to bloom in harmony. And so, all as one, may we always joyfully praise and glorify you, and the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

**Amen.**

*Adapted from St Gregory of Narek*

**Take us from where we are,  
to where you want us to be;  
make us not merely guardians of a heritage,  
but living signs of your coming Kingdom;  
fire us with passion for justice and peace  
between all people;  
fill us with that faith, hope and love  
which embody the Gospel;  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit make us one.**

**That the world may believe,  
that your name may be enthroned in our nation,  
that your church may more effectively be your body,  
we commit ourselves to love you, serve you,  
and follow you as pilgrims not strangers.**

**Amen.**



**Community of Christ**

**StF 681**

## **The Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's 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 of Concern**

Again, in peace, let us beseech the Lord.

Let us glorify Almighty God, who has shined his light upon his creatures.

Now, may he once more shine his abundant mercy upon those who glorify his name in song.

Almighty Lord our God, raise us to life and have mercy on us.

**Lord, have mercy**

**Lord, have mercy.**

Gracious and almighty Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, you are the true Light, who cast out the darkness of sin, and shined into our hearts the joy and hope of your eternal Kingdom.

**Lord, have mercy**

**Lord, have mercy.**

Loving Lord, accept the prayers of all your faithful children throughout the world, who call out to you with one mind, one voice, and one heart. Through your beloved disciple John, you promised that if we walk in your light, then we will have communion with one another, and your precious blood will cleanse us of all sin. Bring us that blessed communion, O Saviour!

**Lord, have mercy**

**Lord, have mercy.**

Grant us peace, O Loving Lord, and remove the scourge of civil unrest and violence from the face of the earth. Change the hearts of all who make war and touch the wounds of all who are afflicted by war. Comfort all prisoners of war and speedily bring them home. Let the light of your love shine in all the dark places of our world and hasten the day when all peoples may dwell in peace with justice.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

O Refuge and Shelter, Lord Jesus Christ, look with compassion on refugees throughout the world, who suffer the agony of displacement and the loss of their homes. Move us to manifest our communion with you, with them and with each other through gestures of hospitality and loving help.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

O Christ, our Saviour, we pray for the people of Armenia and Artsakh, and their kindred throughout the world, who long ago turned to your light through the preaching of the Apostle Thaddeus and the miraculous witness of St Gregory the Illuminator.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

Shine the light of your righteousness and wisdom on all your creatures. Make us children of light and children of the day, so that we may always live our lives reverently, and become for all the world, worthy lampstands for your life-giving light.

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy.**

For you are our Saviour, and to you be glory, dominion and honour, now and always and unto the ages of ages.

**Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

### **Offering**



**God who sets us on a journey**

**tune StF 103**

God who sets us on a journey  
to discover, dream and grow,  
lead us as you led your people  
in the desert long ago.

Journey inward, journey outward  
stir the spirit, stretch the mind;  
love, for God and self and neighbour,  
marks the way that Christ defined.

Exploration brings new insights,  
changes, choices we must face;  
give us wisdom in deciding,  
mindful always of your grace.  
Should we stumble, lose our bearings,  
find it hard to know what's right,  
we regain our true direction  
focused on the Jesus light.

End our longing for the old days,  
grant the vision that we lack -  
once we've started on this journey  
there can be no turning back.

Let us travel light, discarding  
excess baggage from our past;  
cherish only what's essential,  
choosing treasure that will last.

When we set up camp and settle  
to avoid love's risk and pain,  
you disturb complacent comfort  
pull the tent-pegs up again.

Keep us travelling in the knowledge  
you are always at our side,  
give us courage for the journey,  
Christ our goal and Christ our Guide.

## **Blessing and sending out**

May the love of Jesus draw you to himself,  
may the power of Jesus strengthen you in his service,  
may the joy of Jesus fill your spirit,  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you forever.

**Amen.**

Go in peace,  
to love and to be loved,  
to welcome and to belong  
to serve and to be nourished.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Next Week at Trinity**

**Sunday 18 January:** 10:30am Morning Worship  
led by Revd Wayne Hawkins  
URC Oxfordshire Ecumenical Minister

Please hold the staff, trustees and volunteers of TrinityLearning in prayer as we seek a new Education Development Officer to succeed Nicola Williams, who has been an inspirational leader. Pray that God will guide those involved in the recruitment, and that God will prompt those who view the advertisement, that the right person may be found. Please also remember Nicola in your prayers as she moves on.

*Pauline Main, Chair of TL Trustees*