

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done
gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 12:2-6

**Glory to the Father and to the Son:
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*The **Reading** from the Second Testament*

At the end of which

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

The following Song of Praise is said

**Master, now you are dismissing your servant
in peace, according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation, which
you have prepared in the presence of all
peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.**

Luke 2:29-32

**Glory to the Father and to the Son:
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

A reflection is offered.

Talking to God in prayer

A series of prayers are made concluding with

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we 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.**

**In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Taking in God's blessing

A blessing is given.

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**The Parish Church of
St Mary's, Oldswinford**

An Evening Service of the Word

Why are we here?

Silence

Words of introduction are said.

The minister says

Through Jesus, let us continually offer up a
sacrifice of praise to God, the fruit of lips that
acknowledge God's name.

Hebrews 13:15

When anyone is united to Christ, there is a new
world; the old order has gone, and a new order
has already begun.

2 Corinthians 5:17

The candles are lit.

Then the minister says

Great is the Lord and worthy of all praise.

**Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.**

Incense is burnt to symbolise the rising of our prayers.

Remembering the wonders of God

Silence

We say together

**Great and amazing are your deeds,
Lord God the Almighty!
Just and true are your ways,
King of the nations!**

**Lord, who will not fear
and glorify your name?
For you alone are holy.
All nations will come
and worship before you,
for your judgments have been revealed.**

**To the one seated on the throne and to the
Lamb
be blessing and honour and glory and might
forever and ever!**

Revelation 15:3b-4; 5:13

As the scriptures are read,
we can allow God's word to speak to us,
and ponder its meaning in our lives.

In our prayers, we give thanks for God's
goodness, we pray for others as well as
ourselves, and we offer our lives anew in
Christ's service.

All this we do, because we believe in the
presence among us of our Saviour Jesus Christ,
and in the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

We say 'Sorry' for ignoring God

The minister says

Hear these words of scripture

Love one another, for love is of God, and whoever
loves is born of God and knows God.
Spirit of God, search our hearts.

The minister then says

Let us kneel and, in silence, remember our need
for God's forgiveness.

Silence

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the
things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose
the purposes of the heart. Therefore in the light of
Christ let us confess our sins.

**Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent,
forgive our sins, strengthen us by the Holy Spirit,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen.

Drinking in God's living Word

*A **Reading** from the Psalms*

At the end of which we say

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

*The **Reading** from the First Testament*

At the end of which

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

The following Song of Praise is said

**Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.**

**With joy you will draw water from the wells of
salvation. And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the Lord,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.**