



**Resources for Worship and Prayer  
from the Church of England**

## **Introduction**

The Coronation of King Charles III will be a special moment in the life of our nation. The Coronation Service will take place on Saturday 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey, conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The ceremony is rooted in a tradition that can be traced back to 973 and the coronation of King Edgar by St Dunstan, but will also reflect the way the monarchy continues to evolve and the role of the King today. Throughout the Coronation Weekend, themes of community life, volunteering and service will be highlighted and celebrated both nationally and locally.

This collection of resources for worship and prayer will enable churches, communities, and individuals to mark the Coronation in a variety of ways.

### **Psalms, Readings, and Prayers**

A selection of texts from the Bible is presented, for group or individual study and for public proclamation. There are also a number of prayers of different kinds to pray for the King, the Royal Family, our nation, and the world. These readings and prayers can be used in many different kinds of service. You can incorporate them into your normal forms of service during, before, or after the Coronation weekend, or you can use them as part of some of the special forms of service which are in this collection.

There are also special prayers for use at a public screening of the Coronation Service (for instance, in a church or cathedral).

### **Texts for Morning and Evening Prayer and for Holy Communion**

For Morning and Evening Prayer, there are special sentences, a bidding prayer, and responses. These could be used throughout the Coronation weekend, on the weekend before the Coronation, or at any other suitable time when people gather particularly to pray for the King.

A complete set of proper texts for Holy Communion (Common Worship Order One) is provided for incorporation into local forms of service.

### **Other resources:**

#### ***Special Forms of Service***

Complete orders for Holy Communion for a Special Commemorative Service, and for a Vigil Service, which incorporate the materials above in a print-ready format, are also available.

These forms of service can be used by communities when they gather to pray for the King.

### ***Daily Prayers for the Coronation***

The Church of England has also compiled a booklet of *Daily Prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III*, which offers for the period between Easter Day (9 April) and Coronation Day a daily theme, reading, reflection, and prayer for use by individuals, churches, or groups. Copies of this booklet are available for purchase and bulk discounts are available (Church House Publishing, 2023; ISBN 9781781404119).

## Notes

1. The Coronation will be held on 6 May 2023, the Saturday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter (the Third Sunday after Easter according to the *Book of Common Prayer*).

### ***Use of the special forms of service***

2. The Service of Holy Communion and the Special Commemorative Service may be used at any convenient time (though see notes 8-10). It is imagined that the Vigil Service will take place on the day before the Coronation, Friday 5 May, though for pastoral reasons it could take place at a different time.
3. It is advised that special services should not take place at the same time as the Coronation Service in London. Subject to certain conditions churches may offer a live screening of the Service, courtesy of the BBC. Special prayers for use by those present are included in this resource. Permission for screening will need to be sought at a local level with the BBC. For general BBC guidance on screening visit: [Can I use BBC content? - Using the BBC](#)
4. Many communities will be sharing in local activities or lunches (the 'Coronation Big Lunch') on Sunday 7 May and the Coronation Concert will take place in the evening. The 'Big Help Out', a day for volunteering and service, is planned for Monday 8 May. It will be important for churches, civic authorities, and others wishing to plan a special commemorative service to be aware of other local planning for the Coronation Weekend.

### ***Use of the special texts***

5. At Holy Communion the Seasonal Material for Eastertide may be used or, in a specially themed service, the proper texts for Holy Communion for the Coronation may be used.
6. At Morning and Evening Prayer and at other Services of the Word material may be taken from the Coronation resources, including Sentences, Bidding Prayer, Responses, Collects, and the Form of Intercession.
7. At any service, the Prayers may be drawn from the Collects and Form of Intercession for the Coronation, or from *Daily Prayers for the Coronation of King Charles III*. It would be particularly appropriate, on any day before the Coronation, to include the following petition in the Form of Intercession:  
For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury,  
for all who will play a part in the Coronation,  
and for all who will work to support it and our celebrations  
with their care and service,  
that they may be given the strength  
to carry out the duties entrusted to them:

### ***The principal service on Sundays***

8. Sunday 30 April, being the Sunday before the Coronation Service, is the Fourth Sunday of Easter (the Third Sunday after Easter according to the *Book of Common Prayer*). Readings at the principal service shall come from an authorized lectionary, and liturgical provision for this Sunday in Eastertide should be used. At other services the readings and other liturgical provision may be taken from the provision for the Coronation.
  
9. Sunday 7 May, being the day after the Coronation Service, is the Fifth Sunday of Easter (the Fourth Sunday after Easter according to the *Book of Common Prayer*). Readings at the principal service shall come from an authorized lectionary, and liturgical provision for this Sunday in Eastertide should be used. At other services the readings and other liturgical provision may be taken from the provision for the Coronation.
  
10. If the main celebration of the Coronation is to take place at the principal service on Sunday, appropriate biddings and intercessions may be incorporated into the form of service for that Sunday in Eastertide.

## Suggested Psalms and Readings

### *Psalms*

Psalm 20  
Psalm 101  
Psalm 121  
Psalm 145  
Psalm 148

### *Old Testament*

Joshua 1.1-9	God's commission to Joshua
Proverbs 8.1-16	The Gifts of Wisdom
Isaiah 6.1-8	A vision of God in the Temple
Isaiah 65.17-25	New heavens and a new earth
Isaiah 40.12-17, 25-end	Who has directed the spirit of the Lord?
1 Kings 3.5-10	A prayer of Solomon

### *New Testament*

Matthew 22.16-22	Give to God the things that are God's
Matthew 28.16-end	The commissioning of the disciples
Luke 10.25-37	The parable of the Good Samaritan
Luke 22.24-30	The dispute about greatness
Romans 13.1-10	There is no authority except from God
Ephesians 3.14-21	The love of Christ that surpasses knowledge
1 Peter 1.1-12	A new birth into a living hope
Revelation 21.22-22.4	The nations will walk by the light of the glory of God

### *Readings for the principal service on 30 April:*

- *Common Worship*: Acts 2.42–47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2.19–25; John 10.1–10
- *BCP*: Genesis 45.3–10; Psalm 57; 1 Peter 2.11–17; John 16.16–22

### *Readings for the principal service on 7 May:*

- *Common Worship*: Acts 7.55–60 [Genesis 8.1–19]; Psalm 31.1–5, 15–16\*; 1 Peter 2.2–10; John 14.1–14
- *BCP*: Job 19.21–27a; Psalm 66.14–end; James 1.17–21; John 16.5–15

## Prayers

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,  
bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles,  
and all who are in authority under him;  
that they may order all things  
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,  
to the honour of your name,  
and the good of your Church and people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

O God, who providest for thy people by thy power, and rulest over them in love:  
Grant unto thy servant CHARLES, our King, the Spirit of wisdom and government,  
that being devoted unto thee with his whole heart, he may so wisely govern, that in  
his time thy Church may be in safety, and Christian devotion may continue in peace;  
that so persevering in good works unto the end, he may by thy mercy come to thine  
everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*1953 Coronation Collect*

Gracious God,  
in company with our King,  
we rededicate ourselves to your service.  
Take our minds and think through them,  
take our lips and speak through them,  
take our hearts and set them on fire  
with love for you and your kingdom;  
that here we may have your peace,  
and in the world to come may see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,  
bless, we pray, Camilla the Queen Consort,  
William Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales,  
and all the Royal Family.  
Endue them with your Holy Spirit;  
enrich them with your heavenly grace;  
prosper them with all happiness;  
and bring them to your everlasting kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



O Lord our heavenly Father,  
high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, the only Ruler of princes,  
who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth;  
most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour  
    to behold our most gracious Sovereign Lord, King Charles;  
and so replenish him with the grace of thy Holy Spirit,  
that he may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way:  
endue him plenteously with heavenly gifts;  
grant him in health and wealth long to live;  
strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies;  
and finally, after this life, he may attain everlasting joy and felicity;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
we are taught by thy holy Word  
    that the hearts of kings are in thy rule and governance,  
and that thou dost dispose and turn them  
    as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom:  
we humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of  
    Charles thy Servant, our King and Governor,  
that, in all his thoughts, words, and works,  
he may ever seek thy honour and glory,  
and study to preserve thy people committed to his charge,  
    in wealth, peace, and godliness:  
grant this, O merciful Father; for thy dear Son's sake,  
    Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Forms of Intercession

Almighty God, you reign over all things in wisdom, power, and love.  
Hear our prayers which we offer in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

For Charles our King, that you may pour upon him abundant gifts  
to help him fulfil the promises made at his coronation:

Lord, in your mercy  
*All* **hear our prayer.**

That he will have the grace, wisdom, and strength  
to live a life of service to you and to his people:

For Camilla the Queen Consort, William Prince of Wales,  
the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family;  
that they may love and support the King  
as he bears the burden of his office:

*For use in advance of the Coronation:*  
[For Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury,  
for all who will play a part in the Coronation,  
and for all who will work to support it and our celebrations  
with their care and service,  
that they may be given the strength  
to carry out the duties entrusted to them:]

For the building up of the Church  
and for its Supreme Governor,  
for the building up of all Christian people,  
and for mutual understanding and fellowship  
between all people of faith:

For this United Kingdom,  
for His Majesty's other Realms and Territories,  
for the whole Commonwealth of Nations,  
for their governments and ministers,  
and for all who are called to public service,  
that they will seek justice, mercy, and peace:

For the peace of the world,  
for the welfare of all people,  
for those who care for others and for the environment,  
and for all in need:

(or)

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

As we gather in celebration of the coronation of King Charles,  
we pray that you will bless him richly in the years ahead.  
Guide him and all the members of the Royal Family  
with your peaceable wisdom.

Faithful God,  
*All* **fill them with your hope and joy.**

We pray for all who serve our local community.  
May they be ambassadors of goodwill, building friendships and cooperation.  
Faithful God,  
*All* **fill them with your hope and joy.**

We ask your blessing on our homes and families,  
on our schools, children and young people.  
May our neighbourhoods be places of hospitality, peace and trust.  
Faithful God,  
*All* **fill them with your hope and joy.**

We pray for older people in our community,  
and especially the isolated and housebound,  
that they may be known, honoured and cherished.  
Faithful God,  
*All* **fill them with your hope and joy.**

We commend to your care the sick and vulnerable,  
and any who despair.  
May the joy of our nation's celebration renew them in heart and mind.  
Faithful God  
*All* **fill them with your hope and joy.**

We pray for all who come to this place of prayer, whether in times of joy or  
sorrow, find it a place of healing and hope. Transform our lives by your grace,  
and as you have called us to your service, make us worthy of our calling.

Merciful Father,  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Prayers for Use at a Public Screening of the Coronation Service

*These prayers can be used by churches and communities when they gather to watch the Coronation Service together, as well as by lay or ordained ministers in public gatherings, and by families and others who have come together to watch the Coronation. This form may be amended or abbreviated for pastoral reasons.*

*Those gathered may be encouraged to join in the singing of hymns and responses.*

*When all are assembled and before the screening begins, the minister says*

Dear friends, as we come together this day  
to celebrate the Coronation  
[as a *parish/community/group of friends/family*]  
let us pray for the King,  
that both now and always  
God may grant him wisdom and grace  
for his ministry among us.

*Verses from Psalm 148 may be said or sung:*

Kings of the earth and all peoples, \*  
princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and women,  
old and young together; \*  
let them praise the name of the Lord.

For his name only is exalted, \*  
his splendour above earth and heaven.

O God, you are present everywhere through your Spirit  
and your Word is a light upon our path.  
Hear us as we pray for King Charles,  
for Camilla the Queen Consort,  
and for and all the Royal Family;  
and grant that we, together with them,  
may be led by beauty and music, word and sacrament,  
to a greater knowledge and love of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*    **Amen.**

*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.

Let us proceed in peace.

*All*     **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*The screening of the Coronation Service begins.*

*It may be appropriate to conclude the screening with one of the Prayers for the Sovereign.*

## Proper Texts for use at Morning and Evening Prayer

### Sentences

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour.

*Romans 12.9,10*

Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands—  
O prosper the work of our hands!

*Psalm 90.17*

### Bidding

#### *Traditional language*

Beloved, we are come together in the presence of Almighty God and of the whole company of heaven to offer unto him through our Lord Jesus Christ our worship and praise and thanksgiving.

We gather in prayer for our King that both at his anointing and coronation, and always in his ministry among us, God may endue him richly with all wisdom and grace; and for ourselves and all his people, that we may be enabled to do all that our true service to God and to our Sovereign doth require.

[And that we may make these prayers out of a pure heart, let us kneel and humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.]

#### *Contemporary language*

We have come together in the name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to seek forgiveness of our sins,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
and to pray for the needs of the world.

We also gather this day to pray for our King,  
that, both now and always,  
God may grant him wisdom and grace  
for his ministry among us.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,  
may we, with Charles our King,  
give ourselves to the service of God and others,  
that our communities may flourish

and be places of trust and friendship.

### **Opening Prayer**

Blessed are you, Lord Jesus,  
for as you were sent by the Father, so you send us.  
Equip Charles our King and all your people  
with the gifts to fulfil our calling,  
that we may love as you loved,  
serve as you served,  
and willingly follow wherever you lead.  
Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

### **Responses following the Lesser Litany and the Lord's Prayer at Evensong**

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.  
*And grant us thy salvation.*  
O Lord, save the King.  
*Who putteth his trust in thee.*  
Send him help from thy holy place;  
*And evermore mightily defend him.*  
Be unto him, O Lord, a strong tower;  
*From the face of his enemies.*  
Endue thy ministers with righteousness;  
*And make thy chosen people joyful.*  
O Lord, save thy people.  
*And bless thine inheritance.*  
Give peace in our time, O Lord;  
*Because there is none other that fighteth for us,*  
*but only thou, O God.*  
O Lord, hear our prayer;  
*And let our cry come unto thee.*

## Proper Texts for use at Holy Communion

### *Invitation to Confession*

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world  
and knows our every word and deed.  
Let us then open ourselves to the Lord  
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

### *Kyrie Confession*

Lord, you are gracious and compassionate:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

You are loving to all  
and your mercy is over all your creation:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Your faithful servants bless your name  
and speak of the glory of your kingdom:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

### *Collect*

Insert **2023 Coronation Collect (embargoed)**.

*(or)*

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness,  
bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles,  
and all who are in authority under him;  
that they may order all things  
in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace,  
to the honour of your name,  
and the good of your Church and people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### *Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people

and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia.**

*Introduction to the Peace*

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*Prayer at the Preparation of the Table*

Heavenly Father,  
as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine,  
bless also the gift of our hearts and minds  
as we offer our lives in your service;  
for Jesus Christ's sake.

*Preface*

And now we give you thanks  
because you anointed Jesus Christ, your only Son,  
as the eternal priest and King of all.  
As a priest he offered up his life on the cross,  
that by his one sacrifice he might present to you an eternal kingdom;  
a kingdom of truth and life;  
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.

*Extended Preface*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God.  
For with the oil of gladness  
you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son,  
to be our great high priest and king of all creation.  
As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross  
and redeemed the human race by this perfect sacrifice of peace.  
As king he claims dominion over all your creatures,  
that he may bring before your infinite majesty  
a kingdom of truth and life,  
a kingdom of holiness and grace,  
a kingdom of justice, love and peace.  
And so with angels and archangels  
and all the heavenly host,  
we proclaim your glory  
and join their unending hymn of praise:

*Post Communion*



Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,  
that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered  
by your governance,  
that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Blessing*

God grant to the living grace,  
to the departed rest,  
to the Church, the King, the Commonwealth and all people,  
unity, peace and concord,  
and to us and all God's servants,  
life everlasting;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**