



SATURDAY MORNING HYMNS & PRAYER 21st December 2024

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the way, O Zion; your Christ is drawing near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Saviour's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation proclaim in ev'ry place.
All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

Refrain

Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Cry out with joy in the Lord, you holy ones; sing a new song to him.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Refrain

Hark! a herald voice is calling:
"Christ is near," it seems to say;
"cast away the dreams of darkness,
waken, children of the day!"

See, the Lamb so long expected
comes with pardon now from heav'n;
let us meet him with repentance,
pray that we may be forgiv'n.

So, when next he comes in glory,
and earth's final hour draws near,
may he then as our defender
on the clouds of heav'n appear.

Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O Purest of creatures! sweet Mother, sweet Maid;
The one spotless womb wherein Jesus was laid.
Dark night hath come down on us, Mother, and we
Look out for thy shining, sweet star of the sea.

Deep night hath come down on this rough-spoken world,
And the banners of darkness are boldly unfurled;
And the tempest-tossed Church – all her eyes are on thee
They look to thy shining, sweet star of the sea.

He gazed on thy soul; it was spotless and fair;
For the empire of sin – it had never been there;
None ever had owned thee, dear, Mother, but he,
And he blessed thy clear shining, sweet star of the sea.

MARIAN PRAYER

*Lord, open our hearts to your grace.
Through the angel's message to Mary
we have learned to believe
in the incarnation of Christ your Son.
Lead us by his passion and cross
to the glory of his resurrection.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.*