

A SERVICE FOR ROGATION-TIDE

LONDON

S.P.C.K

1961

A SERVICE FOR ROGATION-TIDE

1. OUTSIDE or INSIDE (in comfort!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmGwHdNtpEw>

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the Angel-host
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

SHORT ADDRESS

(a) Jesus said, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: for everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

(b) Let us pray

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fjwsYu3Tx6A>

O worship the King
All glorious above;
O gratefully sing
His power and his love:
Our Shield and Defender,
The Ancient of days,
Pavilioned in splendour,
And girded with praise.

O tell of his might,
O sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is his path
On the wings of the storm.

This earth, with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power
Hath founded of old;
Hath stablished it fast
By a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
Like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care

Let us go forth in peace:
In the name of Christ. Amen

What tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light;
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust,
And feeble as frail,
In thee do we trust,
Nor find thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender!
How firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless Might,
Ineffable Love,
While Angels delight
To hymn thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall sing to thy praise.

(Outside or to a good window)

2. LOOKING AT GARDENS OR ALLOTMENTS OR ORCHARDS (OR PATIO!)

- (a) Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.
The Lord shall command the blessing upon thee in thy store-
houses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and
he shall bless thee in the land which the Lord thy God
giveth thee.

The fear of the Lord is as a garden of blessing.

O ye Winter and Summer, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

- (b) O God, by whose dispensation each one of us may share in the cultivation of the land: Give us also such skill and patience in digging and sowing and planting, that fruit and vegetables may come forth to nourish our bodies, and flowers to gladden our eyes. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- (c) O God, our heavenly Father, who by thy Son Jesus Christ hast promised to all them that seek thy kingdom and thy righteousness all things necessary to their bodily sustenance: Send us, we beseech thee, in due season, such moderate rain and showers, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort, and to thy honour. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- (d) May God bless your fruit trees and plants, bushes, vegetables, and flowers. May he give you patience, contentment, and trust in himself: in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3-dMvkZM-A>

Lord, thy Word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth
light and joy receiveth.

Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure,
by thy Word imparted
to the simple-hearted?

When our foes are near us,
then thy Word doth cheer us,
Word of consolation,
message of salvation.

Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying!

When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.

O that we, discerning,
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!

3. LOOKING TOWARDS A CORNFIELD (Wheat, Oats, Barley, Rye)

(a) Thine eye shall desire grace and beauty:
and above both the green blade of corn.
Sow to yourselves in righteousness:
reap in mercy.
Man shall not live by bread alone:
but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
O all ye Green Things upon the Earth, bless ye the Lord
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

(b) O God, who hast blessed our ploughing and our sowing, protect, we pray thee, from storm and blight, the young corn in our fields; and grant that, after working late and early, we may enjoy a prosperous harvest, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

O Lord Jesus Christ, who has taught us that man doth not live by bread alone: Feed us, we humbly beseech thee, with the true Bread that cometh down from heaven, even thyself, O blessed Saviour, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen*

(c) May the blessing of God be on this field, and on all the crops and cornfields of our countryside. May the soil be wholesome, and the crops sound. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh0JsJQBkKE>

God of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of Thy face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill Thy Church with light divine,
And Thy saving health extend,
Unto earth's remotest end.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord!
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to their Saviour King,
At Thy feet their tribute pay,
And Thy holy will obey.

Let the people praise Thee, Lord!
Earth shall then her fruits afford,
God to man His blessings give,
Man to God devoted live;
All below and all above
One in joy and light and love.

4. LOOKING TOWARDS THE VILLAGE GREEN FROM THE DOORSTEP OR AT SOME OTHER SUITABLE PLACE

- (a) Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is:
brethren, to dwell together in unity.
Except the Lord build the house:
their labour is but lost that build it.
Except the Lord keep the city:
the watchman waketh but in vain.
O ye holy and humble Men of heart, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- (b) From petty feuds and jealousies,
From grumbling and bad temper;
From talking too much about our neighbours,
Good Lord, deliver us.
- From falsehood and double-dealing;
From drunkenness and the lust of the body;
From all failure in self-control,
Good Lord, deliver us.
- From lack of trust in other people;
From uncharitableness and hasty judgement;
From too great trust in ourselves,
Good Lord, deliver us.
- From disbelief in God; from ingratitude to God;
From everything that spoils our life together,
and our fellow-ship with God,
Good Lord, deliver us.
- (c) O God, whose Son was content to share the life of his village at Nazareth; Bless, we beseech thee, the life of this parish with thy continual presence. Grant that in every family thy Name may be hallowed, and thy will be done; that our children may learn to love the faith of Jesus Christ; that men and women may be good neighbours and live godly lives. Comfort the sorrowful and the lonely; be with all those who have gone forth to serve their Queen and Country; and bring them again to their homes in safety; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- (d) O pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls; and plenteousness within thy palaces . For my brethren and companions' sakes; I will wish thee prosperity. Yea, because of the house of the Lord our God; I will seek to do thee good.

5. LOOKING TOWARDS A MEADOW OR PASTURE

(a) Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

O all ye Beasts and Cattle, bless ye the Lord;
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

(b) O God, who hast given us the beasts to share with us the burden and heat of the day; Grant that we may show our gratitude to thee, who art the Giver of all life, by treating with gentleness and consideration all living creatures entrusted to our care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

(c) May God bless your cattle, your sheep, and your horses. May he preserve them from disease, and keep them in good condition. May God bless these pastures and meadows, all growing grass, and green fields. May they remain healthy and unspoiled, and be devoted always to the service of man and beast:

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcCwUF0s_-Y

The king of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
And he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love he sought me,
And on his shoulder gently laid,
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never:
Good shepherd, may I sing thy praise
Within thy house for ever.

6. LOOKING TOWARDS A WELL, OR STREAM, OR RIVER

- (a) Jesus said, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.

O ye Showers and Dew, bless ye the Lord:

O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord

O ye Seas and Floods, bless ye the Lord

Praise him and magnify him for ever.

- (b) Blessed be the Giver of water.

Blessed be he who sends the dews and the rain.

Blessed be he who refreshes the land with streams and rivers.

Blessed be he who has divided the sea from the dry land.

Blessed be he who has taught man to find food in the sea.

Blessed be he who gives water for the thirst of man and beast.

Blessed be he who gives us living water for our souls.

Blessed be the Giver of water.

(c) O Eternal Lord God, receive, we beseech thee, into thy protection the Fleets of thy Servant our Sovereign, the vessels of our merchants, and the persons of all who serve in them. Preserve them from the perils of the sea, and crown them with success in their enterprises: that they may return to enjoy the blessings of their native land, and may unite with us in thankful remembrance of all thy mercies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The blessing of Almighty God be on these and all waters, springs and brooks, lakes and wells, small and great rivers, and the great outer seas. The blessing of Almighty God be on all ships and sailors, on merchant seamen and fishermen, and all the Brotherhood of the sea. The blessing of Almighty God be with you all to lead you by still waters. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mowhHHgFWcc>

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

O'er the world's tempestuous sea;

Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,

For we have no help but thee;

Yet possessing every blessing

If our God our Father be.

Saviour! breathe forgiveness o'er us,

All our weakness thou dost know,

Thou didst tread this earth before us,

Thou didst feel its keenest woe;

Lone and dreary, faint and weary,

Through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,

Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,

Love with every passion blending,

Pleasure that can never cloy:

Thus provided, pardoned, guided,

Nothing can our peace destroy!

7. LOOKING TOWARDS A FARMYARD

- (a) The chief thing for life is water and bread and a garment and a house.
Health and a good constitution are better than all gold:
and there is no gladness above the joy of the heart.
O all ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

- (b) The farmhouse and the farmyard are the centre of the farmer's work.
Here he houses his beasts and his poultry.
Here his dogs keep guard, and his pigs fatten.
Here his tools and machines are got ready for use.
He rises early, and his wits are with him.
Thanks be to God.

For all simple, clean, and honest things:
For the stirring of all young life throughout the countryside:
For hard work in the open that wearies and satisfies a man:
For the security of a home to come back to, with a roof over our
heads, a fire in our kitchens, food to eat, and sound sleep at nights:
Thanks be to God.

- (c) Bless, O Lord God Almighty, this house and farm, and those who live here and
do their work, Give them health and purity, strength and humility, goodness and
meekness, the fulfilment of the law of Christ, and thanksgiving to God, the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, now and always. *Amen.*

May God preserve your going out and your coming in: from this
time forth, for evermore. *Amen.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KimkdLCiFBE>

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like me his praise should sing?
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise the everlasting King,

Father-like, he tends and spares us,
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Praise him Praise him!
Widely as his mercy flows.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Praise him! Praise him !
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Angels help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him;
Dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him! Praise him!
Praise with us the God of grace,

8. LOOKING TOWARDS A FIELD OF ROOTS

- (a) The life of one that laboureth and is contented:
shall be made sweet.
Hate not laborious work:
neither husbandry, which the Most High hath ordained.
O let the Earth bless the Lord:
yea, let it praise him, and magnify him for ever.
- (b) O God, who by the hidden growth of roots dost supply food
for man and beast, and bringest sweetness out of the strong earth:
Grant that we may lift from the soil an abundance of wholesome
food; and when the work is wearisome and the soil is heavy, yet
give us strength to persevere till the whole crop is safely lifted;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
- (c) May God bless with healthy and plentiful crops this field of
potatoes (or beet or other roots). May he bless the skill and
labour of those who toil here with a rich yield and an assured
livelihood: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of
the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOLcOPXJE34>

Love Divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love thou art,
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee.

Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

9. LOOKING TOWARDS THE CHURCH

- (a) Herein is that saying true, One soweth and another reapeth.
I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour; other
men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours.
O ye Priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
O ye Servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord;
O ye Spirits and Souls of the Righteous, bless ye the Lord;
praise him, and magnify him for ever.

- (b) Remember O Lord,
Those who have brought us into the world, and counselled us,
and guided us;
Those who have borne with us, sacrificed themselves for us,
surrounded us with their influence, and loved us;
Those before us who laid out the fields, marked out the farms,
and cleared the ditches, and trod the roads;
Those who first established this village, and built this Church,
and brought the Good News of Christianity to their neighbours.
All those who throughout the ages have toiled, and trusted in God.

Remember, O Lord, the souls of all those who have kept the faith, both
those whom we remember, and those whom we remember not: and grant
them rest in the land of the living, whence all pain and grief have fled
away, and the light of thy countenance shineth forever; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEKO44po10Y>

Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.

O make but trial of His love;
Experience will decide
How blest are they, and only they,
Who in His truth confide.

O magnify the Lord with me,
With me exalt His Name;
When in distress to Him I called,
He to my rescue came.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then
Have nothing else to fear;
Make you His service your delight;
Your wants shall be His care.

The hosts of God encamp around
The dwellings of the just;
Deliverance He affords to all
Who on His succour trust.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom we adore,
Be glory, as it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

(c) Man goeth forth to his work, and to his labour:
until the evening.

O Lord, support us all the day long of this troublous life, until the shades lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in thy mercy, grant us safe lodging, a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done, In earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that 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.*

May the blessing of him who blesseth all, and the peace of him who maketh all things peaceful, and the mercy of him who is all merciful, and the watchful care of our God, be with you and among you and around you, now and for evermore. *Amen.*