Prayers
For using at home while public worship is suspended. March 2020 onwards.

The Preparation; A candle may be lit.

When Lighting a Candle by Ruth Burgess
Lighting a candle is an act of defiance.
Lighting a candle is a prayer for courage.
Lighting a candle is a step towards God.
Here now in this world where You are, where I live,
I light this candle of hope.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
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.

In The Morning
Blessed are you, creator of all,
To you be praise and glory for ever.
As your dawn renews the face of the earth
Bringing light and life to all creation,
We give thanks for this new day:
As we wake from sleep open our eyes to behold your presence
And strengthen our hands to do your will,
That all may have hope and give you praise.
Blessed be God for ever.
In The Evening
Blessed are you, Lord God, creator of day and night;
To you be praise and glory for ever.
As darkness falls you renew your promise
To reveal among us the light of your presence.
By the light of Christ the darkness has been overcome
That we may walk as children of light.
Blessed be God for ever.

Verses from Psalm 121
I lift up my eyes to the hills but where shall I find help?
My help comes from the Lord
Who has made heaven and earth.
The Lord will defend you from all evil:
It is he who will guard your life.
The Lord will defend your going out and your coming in:
From this time forward for evermore.

Bible Verses

Jeremiah 14:9
“You, O Lord, are in the midst of us and we are called by your name; leave us not, O Lord our God.”

John 1:5
“The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.”

John 6:38-39
“For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me; and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.”
Prayers

Living God, we bring to you the needs of our world, the leaders of the nations and the challenges we are all facing
We bring to you all who work in the National Health Service, all who work in hospitals, care homes and hospices, all key workers
We bring to God all those who have died, those who are bereaved, those who are ill at this time
We bring to God someone whom we know, or are in contact with, someone we remember today and for whom pray
We bring to God someone who is hurting, someone who is anxious or fearful and who needs our prayer
We bring ourselves to God that we might grow in generosity of spirit, clarity of mind, and warmth of affection.
May this crisis bring out the best in all of us. Help us to build bridges as we support one another and find creative ways of keeping in touch especially with the most vulnerable and those who feel forgotten. Living God hear our prayer. Amen

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.
Closing Prayer

The Lord bless us and watch over us;  
the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us;  
the Lord look kindly on us and give us peace.  
Amen.

From the Hymn “We are Not our Own” by Brian Wren

We are not our own, Earth forms us,  
Human leaves on nature`s growing vine,  
Fruit of many generations  
Seeds of life divine.

We are not alone, Earth names us:  
Past and present, peoples near and far,  
Family and friends and strangers  
Show us who we are.

Through a human life God finds us:  
Dying, living, love is fully known,  
And in bread and wine reminds us;  
We are not alone

And if love`s encounter leads us  
On a way uncertain and unknown,  
All the saints with prayer surround us:  
We are not alone.