

## Order for Baptist Ministry

### Evening Prayer - Tuesdays and Advent

#### Becoming present to God

Through a sign of attentiveness  
like lighting a candle and/ or

+ In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

or

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
and be lifted up, O ancient doors!  
that the King of glory may come in.

Psalm 24:7

or

**Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
your coming shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with your beloved name.**

Philip Doddridge (1702–51)

#### Celebrating the presence of God

As the last leaves of autumn have fallen  
and all the fire and gold of its splendour  
has been exhausted,

**so, we come at the end of a day  
remembering those glimpses of your glory seen in loving service,  
heard in conversation  
and known in gentle presence.**

Already the buds of tomorrow's  
opportunities appear on the branch;  
ready to break with the morning's light.

**But for now, we rest in the knowledge of your love and peace;  
and ready ourselves for the night's rest.**

This is the time between the two Advents,  
the coming of the babe of Bethlehem,  
and the King of Glory,  
**but this will draw to its close,  
and all this age's splendour and sorrow fade as shadows of the night in the wonder of  
his return.**

Then with the dawn of that Day  
all shall be complete, and Jesus shall reign from shore to shore,  
**from heaven to heaven**  
from age to age unceasing,  
**and the Lamb shall be in the midst of that new City of God. Hallelujah!**

A pause to name any specific thanks or praise

### **Acknowledging our humanity**

Coming King, where we have not recognised your coming in the midst of life today,  
**Forgive us**

Coming King, where we have allowed our lamps to be emptied of the oil of the Spirit,  
**Forgive us**

Coming King, where we have not watched and waited for you today,  
**Forgive us**

**Brush our flickering flame of desire for you with the breath of your Spirit, fan it into  
flame and let it burn bright again. Amen.**

### **Listening for the Word of God -**

From The Common Lectionary for Evening Prayer, after which a period of silence is held.

### **Canticle – Optional**

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver;  
born a child, and yet a king;  
born to reign in us for ever;  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thin all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley (1707–88)

### **Reflecting on our roots**

**We seek to be attentive  
to Word and Spirit  
contemplating in silence and conversation  
in stillness and in service  
the Triune God —  
known and unknown  
mystery and revelation —  
present in Christ  
within us  
between us  
and around us.**

### **Bringing our concerns**

Where the world is filled with weeping,  
**Gracious king, come afresh.**

Where the world is lost in shadow,  
**Gracious king, come afresh.**

Where the world is cursed with revenge,  
**Gracious king, come afresh.**

Where the world is crazed by power  
**Gracious king, come afresh.**

Where the world has shut its doors upon your gracious presence,  
**Gracious King, come afresh, knock again, that the gates of this world may be raised  
again to welcome you .**

Time for silent prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### **Going to love and rest**

Lord, let this your servant  
now rest in peace.  
My eyes have seen your glory  
a light to all peoples  
and the hope of the ages.

**Strengthen and renew us  
that upon the waking morrow  
we may serve you  
in the power of your Spirit  
and to the glory of your name. Amen**

Optional:

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.