**St Augustine, Tooting**

**Prayers Hymns Readings and Reflections for the new year**

**Opening Hymn: *Great is thy faithfulness***

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not,
 thy compassions they fail not,
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided,
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter ,
 and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence
 to cheer and to guide;
strength for today
 and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine,
 with ten thousand beside!

**Gathering and Greeting**

 In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  **Amen.**

 I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord,

 the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

 The Lord be with you
 **and also with you.**

**Confession**

Eternal God,

Creator, Son and Spirit,

at the start of this new year, with your help,

we would let go of the past.

We would lay down our failures, guilt and shame, and lift up our eyes,

and look to the future.

Let the grace of your presence strengthen our resolve, enlighten our minds,

clarify our wills,

and inflame our hearts with love for you

and for all people.

So may we live dedicated lives

in peace, and with courage, faith and cheerfulness, until the year's end.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:
Lord, have mercy.
**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:
Christ, have mercy.
**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh
and splendour of the Father:
Lord, have mercy.
**Lord, have mercy.**

**Absolution**

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring *you* his pardon and peace, now and for ever. Amen.

**Gloria**

**The Collect**

 God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

 whose years never fail

 and whose mercies are new each returning day:

 let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives,

 warming our hearts and giving light to our minds;

 that we may pass the coming year

 in joyful obedience and firm faith;

 through him who is the beginning and the end,

 your Son, Christ our Lord,

 who is alive and reigns with you,

 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

 one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Reading** Revelation 21.1-7

 This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: *Longing for light***

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow’r to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,

many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another,

making your kingdom come.

**Gospel Reading**

 Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Luke*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

 Luke 4.16-21

*After the reading*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sing ‘***alleluia’***.

**Sermon**

**Hymn: *Lord for the years***

Lord, for the years

your love has kept and guided,

urged and inspired us,

cheered us on our way,

sought us and saved us,

pardoned and provided,

Lord of the years,

we bring our thanks today.

2 Lord, for that word,

the word of life which fires us,

speaks to our hearts

and sets our souls ablaze,

teaches and trains,

rebukes us and inspires us,

Lord of the word,

receive your people's praise.

3 Lord, for our land,

in this our generation,

spirits oppressed

by pleasure, wealth and care;

for young and old,

for commonwealth and nation,

Lord of our land,

be pleased to hear our prayer.

4 Lord, for our world;

when we disown and doubt him,

loveless in strength,

and comfortless in pain;

hungry and helpless,

lost indeed without him:

Lord of the world,

we pray that Christ may reign.

5 Lord for ourselves;

in living power remake us -

self on the cross

and Christ upon the throne;

past put behind us,

for the future take us,

Lord of our lives,

to live for Christ alone.

**Prayers of Intercession**

 In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ,

let us pray to the Father.

 We pray for God’s faithfulness to be known in our world.

 In a world of change and hope,

 of fear and adventure,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 In human rebellion and obedience,

 in our seeking and our finding,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 In the common life of our society,

 in prosperity and need,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 As your Church proclaims your goodness

 in words and action,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 Among our friends

 and in our homes,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 In our times of joy,

 in our days of sorrow,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 In our strengths and triumphs,

 in our weakness and at our death,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 In your saints in glory

 and on the day of Christ’s coming,

 faithful God

 **glorify your name.**

 For your name’s sake, O faithful God, we ask this,

 **Amen.**

Thank you, Lord, for the year that has gone

—for the things we have enjoyed doing, for

people to love and for those who love us, for

our health and safety, and for all that has in

any way helped us to grow. Through Jesus

Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

 As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

 **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.**

**Hymn: *All my hope***

  1 All my hope on God is founded;
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change
 and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
 God unknown,
 he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

2 Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
 But God's power,
 hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

3 God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light, and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
 Evermore
 from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4 Daily doth th' Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
 Love doth stand
 at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

5 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
 Christ doth call
 one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

**Blessing**

Together we face the future:

God says- I make all things new.

Christ before us, the way ahead;

Christ beside us in this moment;

Christ beneath us in our weakness;

Christ above us to shield us -

beneath the shadow of his wings we are safe;

Christ between us to bind us in the unity of his love;

Christ in us, equipping us with his all-sufficient grace.

Thus armed, guided and protected we face the new year.

Now we arise and go forth on the journey before us,

knowing that, where Christ leads, life is a journey home.

Therefore we travel in faith, in hope, and in love,

With the blessing of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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