

Leader: Welcome to Holy Hermits Online Worship

It is the second week of the Liturgical Year B

The 5th Week of our extended Advent Season

When we celebrate the next 'O' Antiphon: O Key of David

Preacher: Jamee

Broadcaster: Kieron

Cantor: Ruth

Service prep: Paul

Welcomer: Julie

Reader 1: Rose

Proofer: Chris

Leader: Jeremy

Reader 2: Liz

Music: Paul

Fellowship: Julie

Tech Support: Paul

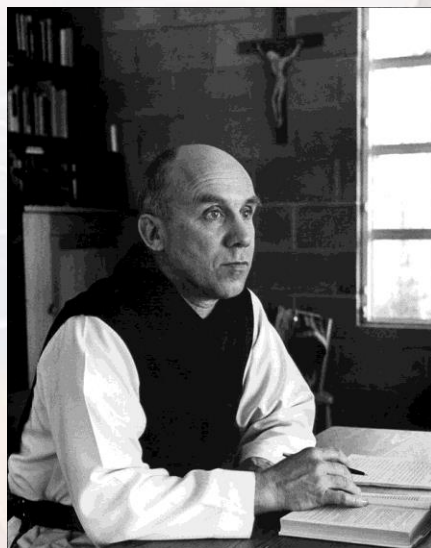
Leader:

'Thomas Merton was born in Prades, in the French Pyrenees to a New Zealand-born father and an American-born mother who was a Quaker.

After some restless years, Thomas converted to Roman Catholicism in 1939 while at Columbia University, and in 1941 arrived at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky, USA run by a strict order of Cistercian monks known as Trappists.

He spent 27 years at Gethsemani where he became the voice of social activism on issues regarding race, peace, civil rights, and promoting East-West religious dialogue.

He died during a trip to the Far East on December 10, 1968, on the 27th anniversary of his arrival at Gethsemani.



To read more about our hermit today please scan QR code above or visit the send out for the link

Leader:

Most well-known teaching:

' My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end; nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.

' But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know Nothing about it.

' Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

' I now invite everyone to mute, as we begin with the O antiphon:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebppj1Gg0vU>



To read more about our hermit today please scan QR code above or visit the send out for the link

*We will be led by our Leader with our Cantor as the voice of all
Leader and Cantor unmute*

The Greeting

Leader: 'The Grace of the lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.'

All: And also with you.

O Antiphon - O Key of David

Leader:

'O Key of David and sceptre of the House of Israel;

you open 'and no one can shut;

you shut 'and no one can open:

'Come and lead the prisoners from the prison house,
those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Gathering Prayer

All: Lord, we come because we want to see you today,
we come because we want to hear your story,
we come because we want to experience your love,
we come because we want to encounter you in our lives.
Amen.

Sentence

Leader: I now invite our cantor to proclaim the sentence for today.

Cantor:

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. For the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together.

Luke 3.4; Isaiah 40.5a

Leader: We pray the prayer of approach.

All:

Harken! Hear the call!

**Let us prepare the path for the Messiah
with our worship and praise. Amen.**

O Key of David Prayer

Leader:

'Gracious God, your Son Jesus Christ opened wide the gate of heaven, making plain the way that leads to eternal joy:

'Grant that we who have been buried with Christ in baptism and raised to new life

may strive courageously for the freedom and peace of the world;

'through the same your Son, Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and dominion for ever and ever.

Amen.

The background features a soft, painterly illustration. In the upper right, a woman with long dark hair and a light blue headband sits next to a man with long brown hair, both looking towards the left. In the lower foreground, the profiles of three people wearing white head coverings are visible, looking towards the right. The overall scene is set in a field with a warm, golden light.

Our first hymn is

My Lord, You Wore No Royal Crown

<https://youtu.be/HgE8UZXBzqc?si=pjav8hZL2kSwG-7U>

We will stay on mute to sing
together
or allow the music to nourish us.

Leader mutes

The Deacon Introduces Confession

The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart.

Silence may be kept.

Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

All:

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:**

we have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;

we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.

**Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

The Priest offers the Absolution

Almighty God who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to God in faith; pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect Prayer

Leader:

'Merciful God,
you sent your messengers the prophets
to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:
give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins,
'that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer,
'who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

The first reader unmutes

The 1st Reading is from Isaiah 40.1-11

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the Lord 's hand
double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord ,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶ A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

Continues

⁷ The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

⁹ Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Here is your God!'

¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

For the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Leader: ' We now say the psalm antiphonally,
I invite the first reader to lead and we will all respond along with our cantor as our voice.

Psalm 85.1–2, 85.8–13

¹ O Lord, you were gracious to your land:
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

² **You forgave the iniquity of your people:
and covered all their sin.**

⁸ I will hear what the Lord God will speak:
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.

⁹ **Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.**

Continues

10 Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

**11 Truth shall flourish out of the earth:
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

12 The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.

**13 For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.**

Leader: Thanks 1st reader, I now invite the 2nd reader to unmute and offer the 2nd lesson when ready.

The 2nd Reading is from St Peter's second letter 3.8–15a

⁸ But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹ Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹² waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³ But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴ Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ¹⁵ and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given to him,

For the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

*We pause for a
moment to
reflect and
breathe
before the Gospel*



The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark 1.1-8

All: Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight" ', ⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.⁷ He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

We pause for a
moment
after the
Gospel
to reflect and
breathe



Holy Bible

The Leader and Cantor mute.

Sermon



Leader unmutes

Our next Hymn:

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry

<https://youtu.be/plr21lLgFpg?si=uifCzUl8sfpDgtid>

*We will stay on mute to sing together
or allow the music to nourish us.*

Leader and Cantor mute

The Greeting of Peace

' We are the body of Christ
All: God's Spirit is with us

' The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: And also with you.

A sign of peace can be exchanged on screen or in the chat or via reaction emojis

Prayer of Thanksgiving before Intercessions

Leader: 'As we now enter prayer, I invite the 2nd reader to unmute, to lead our intercessions.

'Please feel free to change your body position if you need to, as we offer this thanksgiving prayer.

'There is so much to say 'thank you' for.

God, we thank you for your persistence with us, never giving up on us;
and for the persistence of those who prayed for us that we might come into the
kingdom. You knew the right time for us.

You knew what lay around the corner for us then, and you know what lies ahead now.

'Thank you for the excitement you fill us with.

Thank you for your Son Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

Thank you for the peace knowing Jesus gives us.

'Thank you for your Holy Spirit, the One who stirs up, who opens up your Word, and
helps us to put the pieces together that we might see the bigger picture of Jesus and all
that he came to be and do.

Thank you that there is always more to discover.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

Intercessions

Reader 2: We pray for our communities, the people, animals and creation we share our lives with.

We pause for a few moments to name either in our hearts, or out loud, or in the chat, those we bring to the Lord in prayer.

PAUSE...

We entrust to you the community of Holy Hermits Online and our ministry partners:

- St John's Cathedral Brisbane
- The Anglican Diocese of Southern Queensland
- St Gabriel's Carindale
- The Episcopal Diocese of Texas
- Anglican focus
- Tithe.ly

Prosper the work of our hands and show us the way to your new creation.
Creator God, Hear our prayer.

Eternal Trinity of Love, we raise to you the people and places we love and worry about:

Kerry and Les, Jake,
Dr Julie and Jasmine,
Julie and Ray, Tracey, Shane,
Alecia, Martin and Aidan,
Judy and Mary
George, Wendy and Kristine and Claire
Leese(y)
Gavin

Barry
Dilys and Tony,
Paul and Darhon,
Jess and Leah
Jim and Margo and Ruth
Mark, Desley and Bob
Aaron and Andrea

We pause for a few moments to name either in our hearts, or out loud, or in the chat, those we bring to the Lord in prayer. **PAUSE...**

We entrust to you those who have died, those who have died peacefully and those who have died violently, the old and the young. Receive them into your kingdom.

Amen.

Pray Daily Cycle of Prayer

Leader: ' Loving God, joining with the Church in our cycle of prayer, we ask your blessings on:

- The Church of Pakistan (United)
- Ministry to the Defence Force: †Grant ; Chaplains & Members of the Defence Force
- The Parish of Pittsworth: Rev'd Tony
- The Church Army and their work of evangelism
- St Andrew's Anglican College, Peregian Springs: Principal - Chris; Chaplain - Gary; Chair of College Council - Rosalyn; members of College Council; staff & students

Leader: ' Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us saying:

All: 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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

Leader:

- 'You are invited to scan the QR code to visit the commitment prayers for the week, in this quiet time, as we enter silence together.
- 'This week we are praying for our Deliverance ministry and for Archbishop elect, Bishop Jeremy.
- 'We will be still together for a few moments before Spiritual communion on the next slide.



Oh, my Lord Jesus I turn to you present at the Altar and in the Tabernacle. I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of your most Sacred Body and Blood.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my Soul. I cannot at this moment receive you Sacramentally in Holy Communion.

Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it, Sanctify it. Render my heart like your own heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly with you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Amen

Making a Spiritual Communion



Devotions

We begin with the lighting of our
advent candle Hope.

Rev'd Jamee will lead the lighting of
the 2 candle - Peace

Lighting The Advent Wreath: Peace

*In a world of unrest, where war and oppression are rife,
where destruction and hate are the norm and peace is far from us,
Lord, we call upon you to come.*

Come, Lord Jesus, Come

*We long for hope, and pray for peace,
as we await the God of Love in the promised child,
Lord we call upon you to come.*

Come, Lord Jesus, Come.

*In this season of Advent, we await the time of peace,
where all humanity may live in harmony and unity.
We await the birth of the Prince of Peace,
the Promised Child, who comes into our lives in a new way.*

Come, Lord Jesus, Come

Come and bring us your peace.



The Candle of Peace is lit.



*All: God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the light, and focus of our lives. Amen.*

Leader unmutes

Our final song is

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

<https://youtu.be/LTrtve4JJG8?si=gcKkw5YEP2UdmA-w>

We will stay on mute to sing together
or allow the music to nourish us.

Leader mutes

Leader and cantor unmute

Sending Prayer

All:

**Lord, as we go into our week
may we look for more of you.**

**Help us to see more clearly,
to see further, to see what you see,**

to see the whole picture -

and to live our faith each and every day. Amen.

The Priest offers the Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Notices

- Wednesday study group, The 'O' Antiphons Advent Study continues 6pm
- Blue Christmas Service 17th Dec 6pm next weekend
- Christmastide subscription registrations close Tuesday, 12 December!
- Birthdays and anniversaries for December!

*Offerings Welcome at holyhermits.com.au/give or via the HHO app.
Thank you for your regular gifts to this ministry.*

Serving next week: 17 December 2023

Preacher: Jamee

Broadcaster: Paul

Cantor: Vanessa

Service prep: Leonie

Welcomer: Chris

Reader 1: Bob

Proofer: Kristine

Leader: Dr. Julie

Reader 2: Margo

Music: Leonie

Fellowship: Julie

Tech Support: Jamee

A soft, ethereal illustration of people in prayer. In the foreground, two women are shown in profile, wearing white head coverings and looking upwards. In the background, two more women are seated, one with her eyes closed in prayer and another looking towards her. The scene is set against a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

Leader: 'I invite everyone to unmute for the Dismissal

'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ,

Amen.

Fellowship time

Thanks for Leading Fellowship Julie!
Please feel welcome to linger or pop
a message in the chat and head off
when you are ready.

Extra resources developed
by Roots on the Web