**Morning Prayer 22.06.25**

“I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.” *Psalm 130:5*

**Opening Sentences**

O Lord open our lips **and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Pause for reflection as you offer the day to God.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever. **Amen**.

**Song – Goodness Of God**

I love You Lord

Bridge

*Your goodness is running after*

*It’s running after me*

*Your goodness is running after*

*It’s running after me*

*With my life laid down*

*I’m surrendered now*

*I give You everything*

*Your goodness is running after*

*It's running after me*

Oh Your mercy never fails me

All my days

I've been held in Your hands

From the moment that I wake up

Until I lay my head

I will sing of the goodness of God

*All my life You have been faithful*

*All my life You have been so so good*

*With every breath that I am able*

*I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love Your voice

You have led me through the fire

In darkest night

You are close like no other

I've known You as a father

I've known You as a friend

I have lived in the goodness of God

**Bible reading**

**Psalm 43**

**1**Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause  
    against an ungodly people;  
from those who are deceitful and unjust  
    deliver me!  
**2**For you are the God in whom I take refuge;  
    why have you cast me off?  
Why must I walk about mournfully  
    because of the oppression of the enemy?

**3**O send out your light and your truth;  
    let them lead me;  
let them bring me to your holy hill  
    and to your dwelling.  
**4**Then I will go to the altar of God,  
    to God my exceeding joy;  
and I will praise you with the harp,  
    O God, my God.

**5**Why are you cast down, O my soul,  
    and why are you disquieted within me?  
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,  
    my help and my God.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning is now**

**and ever shall be for ever. Amen**

**Old Testament Reading**

**1 Kings 19: 1-15**

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.”

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. “I have had enough, Lord,” he said. “Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.” Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, “Get up and eat.” He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, “Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you.” So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he travelled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the Lord came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

The Lord said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Talk**

**Prayers**

*In our prayers we will pray for the world, the church, our local community, and for those who are in need.*

*At the end of each section we say:*

Lord in Your mercy

**hear our prayer.**

*And at the end:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

**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**

**Notices**

**Conclusion**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**  
Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Online Giving**

Everything we do in mission and ministry is made possible by the generous support of our church family. We encourage everyone who is a regular member of St Marys to join our planned giving scheme (standing order) as this helps us to plan and budget.

You can now make donations online as a one off or regular gifts, and every penny goes back into enabling our mission and ministry.

Details of how to give online or join the planned giving scheme can be found online @ [www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving](http://www.stmaryshanwell.org.uk/giving)