





FOR THE
CORONATION
OF
KING CHARLES III

FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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**WEEK THREE** 



## About this booklet

The Coronation of King Charles III is a historic moment in the life of our nation.

The Coronation Service will take place on Saturday 6 May 2023 at Westminster Abbey, conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A ceremony rooted in longstanding tradition, the service will also reflect The King's role today and look to the future. Throughout the Coronation Weekend, themes of community life, volunteering and service will be highlighted and celebrated both nationally and locally.

To mark this important occasion, the Church of England has compiled this series of *Daily Prayers* for the Coronation of King Charles III.

Beginning on Sunday g April – four weeks before the Coronation – this booklet offers a prayer, a short reading and reflection on a different theme each day. It is designed to help individuals, churches or groups who wish to use these days:

- to pray for The King, The Queen Consort and the Royal Family and their calling to a life of public service
- to pray for our nation, for the Commonwealth and the family of nations of which we are a part at a time of significant change and challenge

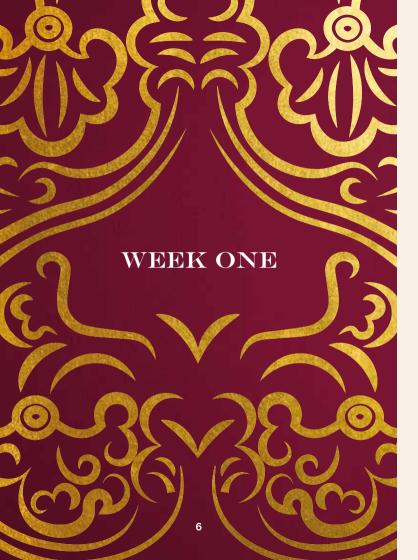
- to learn more about the rich symbolism of the Coronation Service and its spiritual significance
- to reflect on Jesus, the Servant King, who has been crowned in glory, but who came to serve and who calls his followers to do the same.

In addition to this commemorative booklet – which also includes prayers for The King and the Royal Family for use in the months and years beyond the coronation – you can also sign up to have the daily reflections delivered free to your inbox.

You can find full details of these and other Coronation resources for individuals, churches and schools by visiting cofe.io/Coronation or by following the Church of England on social media.



inally, the start of our daily prayers coincides with Easter Day (9 April 2023), which falls 28 days before the coronation. As we celebrate the hope of the resurrection this Easter season, we also remember before God the life of service to which our King has been called. And we pray that King Charles – and all of us – may find strength, confidence, and encouragement in the promises of Easter.





# Called to pray

Jesus said to his disciples, 'You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.'

JOHN 15.16

To pray is to respond to the God who reached out to us in Jesus Christ. Praying is one of the ways we let God into our daily lives, into all that we think, say and do. That's why prayer involves us in awareness of the whole human family, its aspirations and needs, and its God-given potential.

Why the call to pray in these days leading up to the coronation? It's a way of accompanying King Charles as he responds to his calling. And it offers us a chance to pray with him that we may become more the people God is calling us to be, that all our lives may bear fruit that will last.

Eternal God and Father,
you create and redeem us by the power of your love:
 guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
 that we may give ourselves in love and service
 to one another and to you;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



### DAY 2

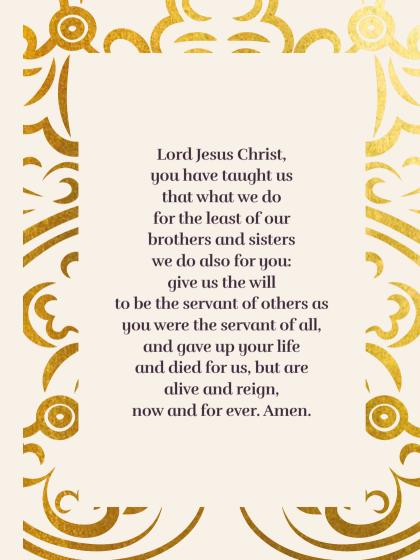
## Called to service

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.'

### LUKE 22.25-27

The call to service is central to our understanding of the monarchy. King Charles has already pledged himself to that vocation. Speaking just after the death of his mother Queen Elizabeth II, he made a commitment to follow the pattern of loving service that she demonstrated, a service of 'loyalty, respect, and love'.

As The King prepares for this lifelong task, we reflect on the example of Jesus, who came not to be served but to serve. Jesus shows us what we might all aspire to: the possibility of living for others, of seeking the wellbeing of the whole community, of moving beyond self-interest to self-sacrifice.





## Concern for the environment

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

For he has founded it upon the seas and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep.

#### PSALM 24.1.2

'God showed me a little thing, the size of a hazelnut, on the palm of my hand. I looked at it and wondered, "What is this?" The answer came, "It is all that is made." I marvelled that it continued to exist; it was so small. It exists, both now and for ever, because God loves it.' These famous words of the great medieval mystic, Mother Julian of Norwich, echo the theme of God's loving sovereignty proclaimed in Psalm 24.

Christians believe that God has uniquely entrusted to human beings the care of creation and that to God we must render an account of our activity. And it is not just to God that we must give an account. Younger generations today clamour to know what their global inheritance will be. King Charles has been alert to this challenge from his earliest years and we pray with him:

#### Glorious God.

the whole creation sings your marvellous work: may heaven's praise so echo in our hearts that we may be good stewards of the earth; and rejoice to be called your children. Amen.

