

# A BETTER LIFE (4)

A good appetite

Matthew 5: 1 - 6

# Welcome and notices



Bowthorpe  
Church

# Call to worship

Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things' (Colossians 3:1-2).



# Jesus, God righteousness revealed



Bowthorpe  
Church

# Opening prayer

Gracious God, as we rejoice in the gift of this new day and in the gift of your salvation, may the light of your presence set our hearts on fire with love for you, now and for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



# Confession

**Holy God, we confess to you that we have rebelled against you and broken your law of love; we have not loved our neighbours nor heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray, and free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



In Christ we are forgiven.  
In Christ we are set free.  
**Amen. Thanks be to God.**



Children's talk  
A good appetite.



# Psalm 63: 1 - 5

You, God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory.



Because your love is better than life,  
my lips will glorify you.

I will praise you as long as I live,  
and in your name I will lift up my  
hands.

I will be satisfied as with the richest of  
foods; with singing lips my mouth will  
praise you.



# Matthew 5: 1 - 6

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



Blessed are those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and  
thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be filled.



This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



# Reflection: A better life(4)

A good appetite

Matthew 5: 1 - 6





Bowthorpe  
Church

# As the deer



# Prayers of intercession

Loving God, we pray for the Church throughout the world, for unity in Christ, for the fulfilment of Christ's mission, and for all who share the gospel in so many ways. We pray for the Church here in Norwich, that we



also may walk in unity. We pray that we may be strengthened to serve you from a heart that loves you. May we be united in truth, active in service, and hopeful in affliction.



Loving God, we pray for the world in which we live. We ask that you would give wisdom to all in authority, that every nation may walk in the ways of justice and peace, that countries would honour one another and seek the common good.



Loving God, we pray for our community and thank you for all that is good in it, for our neighbours and friends, our schools and community centres and shopping area, for groups like Society Alive and Connecting Bowthorpe, plus our councillors and representatives.



Bless this neighbourhood with an  
openness to you and your ways.



Finally, Lord, we pray that you would comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Grant them courage and hope in their difficulties, and bring to them the joy of your salvation. And we remember before you all who have died, especially those who have died in the faith of Christ.

And so we commend all people to your unfailing love and mercy, and rejoice in the faithful witness of all your people in every age, praying that we may be counted among them in your eternal kingdom.



All these things we pray in the name  
of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.**



Here I am (I surrender)



# Closing prayer and blessing

Lord, as we go into the world as your representatives, have your way in us that we may walk in your light and truth. May we rejoice in your love and reflect your glory. **Amen.**



And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and with all whom you love, now and for evermore. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

