

# A Humble King and a Faithful Witness

"All his works are right and his ways are just; and those who walk in pride he is able to humble." (Dan 4:37)

### God Calls us to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation; We will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD God is our strength and our song, and he has become our salvation.

> Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

(Isa 12)

Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, our Heavenly Father, it is our heart's desire, our deepest longing, to know you, to love you, and to worship you.

It is our greatest pleasure, our highest privilege, our chief delight, to meet with you, the one true and living God, and experience your grace and favour.

Grant us power by your Holy Spirit to worship you now, in spirit and in truth.

Amen.

(Valley of Vision)

#### Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters draw near, praise him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord,
above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side
and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen
all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who when darkness and sin are abounding, who when the godless are rampant, all goodness confounding, shines with his light, scatters the terror of night, safely his people surrounding.

Praise to the Lord,
who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew
what the almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.

Praise to the Lord O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the "Amen!"
sound from his people again;
gladly with praise we adore him!

#### We Confess and are Assured

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Have mercy on us, O God

According to your unfailing love; According to your great compassion.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or remain seated.

#### Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father,
We have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against your holy laws.
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.

Spare those who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

#### Psalm 45

My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; I address my verses to the king; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

You are the most handsome of the sons of men; grace is poured upon your lips; therefore God has blessed you forever.

Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one, in your splendor and majesty! In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds!

Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the king's enemies; the peoples fall under you. Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of uprightness; you have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions; your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad; daughters of kings are among your ladies of honor; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear: forget your people and your father's house, and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him.

The people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people. All glorious is the princess in her chamber, with robes interwoven with gold.

In many-colored robes she is led to the king, with her virgin companions following behind her. With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

In place of your fathers shall be your sons; you will make them princes in all the earth. I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, age after age.

Amen.

# God Speaks to us Through His Word

First Reading: Gen 21:1-7; 22:1-19

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Second Reading: Daniel 4:1-37

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: A Humble King and a Faithful Witness (Mark Payne)

## We Respond to God's Word

Creed (Heidelberg Catechism)

Believer, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation. Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

# Celebration of the Lord's Supper

#### Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

# Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. "Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Pro 3:9)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread. Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine and we will drink together.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood
of your dear Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him,
we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.

Amen.

#### Psalm 67

O God, to us show mercy
And bless us in your grace;
Cause now to shine upon us
The brightness of your face;
That so your way most holy
On earth may soon be known,
And unto every people
Your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you, Let all the nations sing; In every land let praises And songs of gladness ring; For you shall judge the people In truth and righteousness, And you shall lead the nations Your justice to confess.

Let all the peoples praise you,
All tongues and tribes should sing,
For earth in rich abundance
To us her fruit shall bring.
The Lord our God shall bless us;
Let all the earth maintain
The praise it owes its Maker,
The reverence due His name.

#### Benediction and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord In the Name of Christ, Amen.