



God at Work in You His People

“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you...”, (Heb 13:20, 21a)

Call 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.

(Isa 12:2)

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

(Isa 12:5)

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)

Psalm 95

O come, let us joyfully sing to the LORD;
To the Rock of salvation
let us raise our voice.
Let us come before him
expressing our thanks;
Let us with loud singing
praise him and rejoice.

The LORD is the great God,
King over all gods.
The earth's deepest places
he holds in his hand;
The heights of the mountains
belong to the LORD.
The oceans are his,
and he formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow humbly
and worship the LORD;
Let us kneel before him,
our Maker, in prayer.
For we are his people
and he is our God;
He shepherds and feeds us
in his loving care.

Today if you hear and attend to his voice,
Don't harden your hearts
as you did on the way;
In Meribah's desert
you quarrelled with me,
You tested my patience
at Massah that day.

Your fathers provoked me
and tested me there,
Although they had witnessed
the works I had done.
With that generation
for forty long years
My deep indignation
continued to burn.

I said, "They're a people
whose hearts go astray;
They do not acknowledge
that my ways are best."
And so, in my anger,
I stated on oath,
"I swear that they never
shall enter my rest."

Confession and Assurance

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 neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

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

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Pet 2:24-25)

Come People of the Risen King

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice,
O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green
pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

**He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.**

Even though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death,

**I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort
me.**

For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all'.

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You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
**you anoint my head with oil; my cup
overflows.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life,
**and I shall dwell in the house of the
Lord for 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's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-14, p. 622

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:17-25, p. 1010

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: God at Work in You His People (Mark Payne)

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation,
you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith
in his excellent word!
What more can he say
than to you he has said –
to you, who to Jesus
for refuge have fled?

In every condition –
in sickness and health,
in poverty's vale,
or abounding in wealth;
at home or abroad,
on the land, on the sea,
as days may demand,
shall your strength ever be.

Fear not, I am with you,
O be not dismayed!
For I am your God
and will still give you aid:

I'll strengthen you, help you,
and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials
your pathway shall lie,
my grace all-sufficient
shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you;
I only design
your dross to consume,
and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus
has leaned for repose,
I will not, I cannot,
desert to his foes;
that soul, though all Hell
should endeavour to shake,
I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!

Richard Keen (c.1787) MMRecords

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

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.

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, simply allow the bread and wine to pass by, and reflect on what is taking place.

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.

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.

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.*" (Prov. 3:9)

The Lord's my Shepherd (Psalm 23)

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me,
and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

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Benediction

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