



The Generosity of Faith

“I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust of the earth, your offspring also can be counted.” (Gen 13:16)

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 145

God my king, I will extol you
Bless your name forevermore
Every day, I'll sing your goodness
Hymn the greatness of the Lord
You are praised through generations
of your works we'll always tell
We will praise your matchless goodness
Praise the God of Israel

God is merciful and gracious
Slow to anger, rich in love
He is good to all his creatures
Showers blessings from above
All your works shall bless and thank you
Tell of all your mighty deeds
Celebrate your wondrous kingdom
You shall reign in majesty

Lord your throne will last forever
You will reign from age to age
You are faithful to your promise
You are kind in all your ways
You uphold the weak and falling
Give your strength to weary feet
From your hand you pour forth blessing,
Satisfy our every need

God is righteous to his promise
He is kind in all his ways
He is near to those who seek him
Yet the wicked casts away
He fulfils the good desire
Of his saints who fear his name
Let all peoples praise his goodness
And forever sing his praise

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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

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2)

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again.
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness,
And clothed me with His light,
And wrote His law of righteousness
With power upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;

Whose every promise is enough
For every step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth
Is given by the King.
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.

Psalm 138, Of David.

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; **before the gods I sing your praise;**

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name **for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**

On the day I called, you answered me; **my strength of soul you increased.**

All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD, **for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

And they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, **for great is the glory of the LORD.**

For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly, **but the haughty he knows from afar.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; **you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.**

The LORD will fulfil his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

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: Mark 10:17-31, p. 846

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Gen 13, p. 9

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Generosity of Faith (David Thornhill-Smith)

O Church Arise

O Church, arise,
and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak
can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword
that makes the wounded whole,
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have
the prize for which He died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross,
where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes
lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come
put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run
with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

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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 and eternal God, we thank you for reassuring us at this meal of your favour and goodness towards us, of your word for us.

We thank you that we are truly members of the body of your Son, and that we are heirs, by grace, of your eternal kingdom.

We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, to draw us together in love and unity, that we may serve through those good works which you have prepared for us to do through Jesus Christ our Lord, and for His 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)

Be Thou, O God, Exalted High (Psalm 57)

Be Thou, O God, exalted high;
And as Your glory fills the sky,
So let it be on earth displayed,
Till You are here, as there, obeyed;
Till You are here, as there, obeyed.

O God, my heart is fixed, 'tis bent
Its thankful tribute to present;
And, with my heart, my voice I'll raise
To You, my God, in songs of praise;
To You, my God, in songs of praise.

Awake, my glory; harp and lute,
No longer let your strings be mute;
And I, my tuneful part to take,
Will with the early dawn awake;
Will with the early dawn awake.

Your praises, Lord, I will resound
To all the list'ning nations 'round;
Your mercy highest heav'n transcends;
Your truth beyond the clouds extends;
Your truth beyond the clouds extends

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Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

**In the Name of Christ,
Amen.**
