



## Trust His Promise; Respond to His Mercy

*“Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children  
of promise.” (Gal 4:28)*

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### Call to Worship

God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises! Sing praises to our King, sing praises!  
For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm!**

*(Ps 47.5-7)*

Let us pray

**Almighty God,  
to you all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

## *Psalm 45 (O King, You Are Most Worthy)*

O King, you are most worthy,  
of men you are the best  
Your words are true and gracious,  
you are forever blessed  
Take up your sword in splendour,  
ride forth in majesty  
For justice and mercy  
and true humility  
Your arrows pierce your enemies,  
you march across the land  
The peoples and the nations  
against you cannot stand

Your throne will last forever,  
with justice you shall reign  
You love all that is righteous  
and hate all evil gain  
So God has richly blessed you  
with joy abundantly  
Your robes are all fragrant,  
your courts are ivory  
There princesses attend you,  
sweet music from of old  
Your future queen awaits  
you arrayed in finest gold

O bride forsake all others,  
don't give your love abroad  
The king desires your beauty;  
so honour him your Lord  
The gown he gives is glorious,  
the threads are twined with gold  
In shimmering colours  
the envy of the world  
A joyful crowd is with her,  
with gladness now they sing  
And finally she enters  
the palace of the king

This king will reign forever,  
his sons upon the earth  
And ev'ry generation  
will tell of his great worth  
All nations will soon praise him  
and fall down at his feet  
His kingdom established,  
where truth and mercy meet  
O Jesus we adore you,  
our lover and our king  
Your church, your bride is waiting  
and so to you we sing

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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.

*(1 Jn 1:8-10)*

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

*Please either kneel or be 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)*

## *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living, in His suffering  
Never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfilment  
Of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him  
Praise the Lord; He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when he comes

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## *Psalm 47 (Responsive Psalm)*

Clap your hands, all peoples!  
**Shout to God with loud songs of joy!**  
For the Lord, the Most High,  
is to be feared,  
**a great king over all the earth.**  
He subdued peoples under us,  
**and nations under our feet.**  
He chose our heritage for us,  
**the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**  
God has gone up with a shout,  
**the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.**  
Sing praises to God, sing praises!  
**Sing praises to our King, sing praises!**  
For God is the King of all the earth;  
**sing praises with a psalm!**

God reigns over the nations;  
**God sits on his holy throne.**  
The princes of the peoples gather  
**as the people of the God of Abraham.**  
For the shields of the earth  
belong to God;  
**he is highly exalted!**

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: Gal 4:21-31, "Children of the Promise", p. 974*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Second Reading: Gen 16:1-16, p. 11*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: Preempting God's Promise (Mark Payne)*

## Response to God's Word

*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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## *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.**

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# 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*

**Father, as we have received  
these gifts of bread and wine,  
you have fed us with the spiritual food  
of the body and blood  
of our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love,  
and that we are members of his body.**

**Renew us by your Holy Spirit,  
unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people  
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## *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)

## *Tell Out, My Soul*

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings  
give my spirit voice;  
tender to me  
the promise of his word –  
in God my Saviour  
shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might,  
the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure,  
from age to age the same  
his holy name:  
the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions  
lay their glory by;  
proud hearts and stubborn wills  
are put to flight,  
the hungry fed,  
the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul,  
the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise,  
and his mercy sure:  
tell out, my soul,  
the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children  
and for evermore!

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## Benediction

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

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Please diarise the dates below and pray for these upcoming events:

<b>19 - 20 March</b>	Church Family Weekend with Matt Searles
<b>29 March</b>	An Evening with Rory Steyn at Godolphin School
<b>30 March</b>	An Evening with Rory Steyn at St George's Church, Bulford
<b>3 April</b>	Chris Sinkinson at CCS
<b>6 April</b>	Hope Explored begins for three weeks