

The Kingdom Revealed and Concealed

"Blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear." (Matt 13:16)

Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

1 Chr 16:8-10

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.

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. 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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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.

God's word tells us:

"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 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

"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)

O Lord, how long? (Psalm 13)

O Lord, how long? How long will you forget me? O Lord, how long will you conceal your face? O Lord, how long will sorrows rise within me And will my heart know anguish all the day? O Lord, how long? Give ear to hear my cry I look to you, or Lord I surely die

Light up my eyes when all around is darkness Turn back your face, and hear me when I call Consider me, incline your ear and answer Or will my foes rejoice to see my fall

Psalm 78:1-8

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.

We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the **glorious deeds of the** Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel,

which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,

Light up my eyes! For you O Lord I wait I look to you, O Lord do not delay

But I will trust in your unfailing mercy I will delight in your unending grace My soul will sing as I await the morning I will rejoice, though sorrow fills my days Yes I will trust in you my gracious Lord You have been good, and shall be evermore

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that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children,

so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, **but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their fathers,**

a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast,

whose spirit was not faithful to God.

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: Isa 6:1-13, "Isaiah Commissioned by the Lord", p. 571

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

Second Reading: Matt 13:1-23, p. 818

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

Sermon: The Kingdom Revealed and Concealed (Mark Payne)

How blessed the one (Psalm 1)

How blessed the one who does not walk Where wicked men would guide his feet, Who does not stand in sinners' paths Or sit upon the scorners' seat. The law of God is his delight, His meditation day and night.

He prospers like a tree, which has Been planted by a flowing stream, And in its season yields its fruit; Its leaves are always fresh and green. In every act and every word He knows the blessing of the LORD. Not so the wicked: they are like The chaff the wind will blow away. They will not in the judgment stand, Nor sinners with the righteous stay. God knows the way the righteous go; The wicked's way he'll overthrow.

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The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

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. "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:6-7)

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 to 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.

Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

NEXT WEEK		
Thurs 7 th July	Psalm Sing 7.15pm at the church	
Sun 10 th July	Morning Worship	Parables series
FURTHER AHEAD		
Sun 31st July	Church Picnic	