

Rooted, Built Up, Established, Thankful

"Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him." (Col 2:6)

Call to Worship

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing!

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honour and glory and might forever and ever. Amen! (Rev 5:12-13)

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 the summary of the whole law, from our Lord Jesus Christ:

"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:

"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."

(Prov 28:13)

Let us therefore 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

"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isa 53:5-6)

Psalm 135

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord, give praise, O servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord in

who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God!

Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!

For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession.

For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.

Whatever the Lord pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.

He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain

and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

He it was who struck down the firstborn of Egypt, both of man and of beast;

who in your midst, O Egypt, sent signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants;

who struck down many nations and killed mighty kings, Sihon, king of the Amorites, and Og, king of Bashan, and all the kingdoms of Canaan,

and gave their land as a heritage, a heritage to his people Israel.

Your name, O Lord, endures forever, your renown, O Lord, throughout all ages.

For the Lord will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants.

The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands.

They have mouths, but do not speak; they have eyes, but do not see;

they have ears, but do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths.

Those who make them become like them, so do all who trust in them.

O house of Israel, bless the Lord! O house of Aaron, bless the Lord! O house of Levi, bless the Lord! You who fear the Lord, bless the Lord!

Blessed be the Lord from Zion, he who dwells in Jerusalem! Praise the Lord!

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!

Sing Praise to the Lord God Almighty (Psalm 135)

Sing praise to the Lord God Almighty, proclaim all His glory abroad.

O praise Him, you servants appointed to stand in the house of our God.

Give praise to the Lord for His goodness; how pleasant His praises to sing.

His people, both chosen and precious, your praises with gratitude bring.

I know that the Lord is almighty; supreme in dominion is He, performing His will and good pleasure in heaven, on the earth, in the sea. His hand guides the clouds in their courses; the lightning flames forth at His will. The wind and the rain He releases His sovereign designs to fulfill.

To ransom His people from bondage, great wonders and signs He displayed. He struck all the firstborn of Egypt, till Pharaoh gave in and obeyed. Great nations and kings that opposed Him all perished by God's mighty hand. Their riches He gave to His people;

The name of the Lord stands forever, through all generations renowned. The Lord brings relief to His people; His mercies for ever abound. The idols of gold and of silver can't speak, neither listen or see. Their makers shall also be helpless; like them shall their worshipers be.

He made them the heirs of the land.

Praise God, every son, every daughter; in worship your gladness proclaim. His servants, and all you who fear Him, sing praise to His glorious name!

God's Word

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8, p. 779

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Col 2:1-7, p. 983

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Incomparable Christ: Rooted, Built Up, Established, Thankful

(Mark Payne)

Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
In the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt
blow through me
And my sails have all been torn.
In the suff'ring, in the sorrow,
When my sinking hopes are few,
I will hold fast to the anchor;
It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor While the tempest rages on, When temptation claims the battle And it seems the night has won; Deeper still then goes the anchor Though I justly stand accused; I will hold fast to the anchor; It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor Through the floods of unbelief; Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now Lift your eyes to Calvary. This, my ballast of assurance; See His love forever proved; I will hold fast to the anchor; It shall never be removed.

Christ, the sure and steady anchor As we face the wave of death, When these trials give way to glory, As we draw our final breath; We will cross that great horizon, Clouds behind and life secure, And the calm will be the better For the storms that we endure.

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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, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

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, 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 until we all drink together.

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. 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." (Pro 3:9)

O God, to Us Show Mercy (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

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

IN THE WEEK		
Thu 1 st Dec	Psalm Sing	At church
Sun 4 th Dec	Morning Worship	Church lunch and leaflet drop
FURTHER AHEAD		
Sat 17 th Dec	Carol Service	Guests very welcome. Starts at 5pm.