



The Christian Family

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Col 3:23)

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 16:8-1)

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.**

Praise Awaits You God in Zion (Psalm 65)

Praise awaits you God in Zion
Soon all flesh to you will come
Though our sins prevail against us
You atone for every one
Blessed are those you choose and
welcome
Dwelling in your courts of grace
We are filled with every blessing
Satisfied in you always

Holy God and mighty saviour
Hope of all the farthest seas
When we pray you hear and answer
You make known your wondrous deeds

By your strength you formed the
mountains
Stilled the roaring of the waves
Earth rejoices at your goodness
Dawn and evening sing your praise

From your river ever-flowing
You give life to all the land
Autumn rains and grain at harvest
You provide for every man
All the year is crowned with bounty
Deserts bloom and hills bear fruit
Hills and valleys, all creation
Lift their hymn of praise to you

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.

Almighty and most merciful God,

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 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

God's Word

First Reading: Jer 8:18-9:3, "Weeping for the people." p. 636

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm : Psalm 119 (Sections 13 & 14)

Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules.

I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word!

Accept my freewill offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your rules.

I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.

The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.

Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.

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

Second Reading: Col 3:18-4:1, p. 984

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Christian Family (Mark Payne)

Before You I Kneel (A worker's prayer)

Before You I kneel,
my Master and Maker
To offer the work of my hands,
For this is the day
You've given Your servant;
I will rejoice and be glad:
For the strength
I have to live and breathe,
For each skill
Your grace has given me,
For the needs and opportunities
That will glorify Your great name.

Before You I kneel
and ask for Your goodness
To cover the work of my hands,
For patience and peace
to shape all my labour,
Your grace for thorns in my path.
Flow within me like a living stream,

Wear away
the stones of pride and greed,
'Til Your ways
are dwelling deep in me
And a harvest of life is grown.

Before You we kneel,
our Master and Maker;
Establish the work of our hands,
And order our steps
to seek first Your kingdom
In every small and great task.
May we live
the gospel of Your grace,
Serve Your purpose
in our fleeting days,
Then our lives
will bring eternal praise
And all glory to Your great name,

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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. *"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)*

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah (Psalm 146)

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
They shall die, to dust returning,
And their purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blest whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heaven and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
Raises those bowed down with
anguish,
Makes the sightless eyes to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and the widow,
Judgement on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, your God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing.

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:

<i>IN THE WEEK</i>		
Thu 2nd Mar	Psalm Sing	At Christ Church
Sun 5th Mar	Morning Worship	Followed by Church Lunch
<i>FURTHER AHEAD</i>		
Thurs 9th Mar	Bi-Annual Church Meeting	
Sat / Sun 18th-19th Mar	Church Family Weekend	

CCLI No: 731672.. Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are from the English Standard Version (ESV).