



## Encouraging One Another

*“I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts” (Col 4:8)*

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### Call to Worship

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.  
This is the Lord's doing;  
it is marvellous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**The Lord is God, and he has made  
his light to shine upon us.**

*(Ps 118:22-24, 27)*

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)*

## *Praise God, my soul! With all my heart (Psalm 103a)*

Praise God, my soul! With all my heart  
Let me exalt his holy name.  
Forget not all his benefits;  
His praise, my soul, in song proclaim.  
The LORD forgives you all your sins,  
And heals your sickness and distress;  
Your life he rescues from the grave,  
And crowns you in his tenderness.

He satisfies your deep desires  
From his unending stores of good,  
So that, just like the eagle's strength,  
Your youthful vigour is renewed.

The LORD is known for righteous acts  
And justice to downtrodden ones.  
To Moses he made known his ways,  
His mighty deeds to Israel's sons.

The LORD is merciful and kind,  
To anger slow, and full of grace.  
He will not constantly reprove,  
Or in his anger hide his face.  
He does not punish our misdeeds,  
Or give our sins their just reward.  
How great his love—as high as heaven—  
Towards all those who fear the LORD!

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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 John 1:8-9)

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 God,

**We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean,  
And that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed;  
Not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires  
that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to You.  
For this reason, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy,  
Seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
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)*

## *Psalm 103*

As far as east is from the west,  
So far his love has borne away  
Our many sins and trespasses  
And all the guilt that on us lay.  
Just as a father loves his child,  
So God loves those who fear his name.  
For he remembers we are dust,  
And well he knows our feeble frame.

Each human life is like the grass,  
And like a meadow flower it grows.  
Its place will never be recalled  
Once over it the tempest blows.

But everlasting is God's love  
For those who fear him, and their seed—  
For those who keep his covenant,  
And carefully his precepts heed.

God's kingly rule is over all;  
In heaven he has set his throne.  
O you his angels, praise the LORD,  
Strong ones by whom his will is done.  
O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,  
His servants who perform his word.  
Praise God, his works  
throughout his realm,  
And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

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## God's Word

*First Reading: Jer 30:1-9; 31:23-40, "Glorious Hope!", p. 657*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 16 (Preserve Me, O God)*

Preserve me, O God,  
for in you I take refuge.

**I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you."**

As for the saints in the land,  
they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.

**The sorrows of those who run after  
another god shall multiply; their drink  
offerings of blood I will not pour out or  
take their names on my lips.**

The Lord is my chosen portion  
and my cup; you hold my lot.

**The lines have fallen for me in  
pleasant places; indeed, I have a  
beautiful inheritance.**

I bless the Lord  
who gives me counsel;  
in the night also  
my heart instructs me.

**I have set the Lord  
always before me;  
because he is at my right hand,  
I shall not be shaken.**

Therefore my heart is glad,  
and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.

**For you will not abandon  
my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one  
see corruption.**

You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
**at your right hand  
are pleasures for evermore.**

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: Colossians 4:7-18, p. 985*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: Encouraging One Another (David Thornhill-Smith)*

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*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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*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.**

## *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.

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## **Benediction**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

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

**Please diarise and pray for the items below:**

<b>IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS</b>		
<b>Tue 18<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Food &amp; Chat</b>	Speak to Jenny Owen if you are able to assist.
<b>Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	7:15pm at the church.
<b>Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Sunday Worship</b>	Philem 1:1-7. A Gracious Greeting.
<b>Tues 25<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>Women in the Word</b>	7.30pm. Speak to Hilary Townshend or Sarah Payne for more details.
<b>Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> Apr</b>	<b>CAL Event</b>	Billy McCurrie: <i>Would God forgive a terrorist?</i>

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