

Reconciled in Fellowship

"I pray that the fellowship of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ." (Phil v7)

Call to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation;
We will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD God is our strength and our song,
and he has become our salvation.

(Isa 12:2)

Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.

(Isa 12:5)

Let us pray.

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, our Rock and our Redeemer.

(Ps 19:14)

Amen.

Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts to me.
My heart cries out and even faints,
the courts of God to see.
The sparrow finds a place to nest,
beside your throne of grace.
Oh how I long to find my rest,
and dwell with you always.

A pilgrim now for all my days, my gaze is set above. The desert blooms with autumn rains, You bless the ones you love. Your people go from strength to strength, until we see your face. Your eyes are turned to us in love, You hear us when we pray.

I'd rather live for just one day and gaze upon my Lord.
Than spend a lifetime far away from where your praise is heard.
There's no good thing you will withhold, from those who follow you,
O Lord my sun and mighty shield my soul will trust in you.

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Confession and Assurance

Hear what God's word says:

"O LORD, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether." (Ps 139:1-4)

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 1:8-9)

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

Have mercy on us, O God,

according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin!

For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgement. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.

O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (Ps. 51)

Assurance of Pardon

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:1-2)

Eternal Weight of Glory

Now the days and hours and moments of our suff'ring seem so long;
And the toilsome wait and wond'ring threaten silence to our song.
Now our pain is real and pressing where our faith is thin and weak,
But our hope is set on Jesus;
and we cling to him, our strength.

Oh, eternal weight of glory!
Oh, inheritance divine!
We will see our Lord redeeming
every past and future time.
All our pains will be transfigured,
like the scars of Christ our Lord.
We will see the weight of glory,
and our broken years restored.

For behold! I tell a myst'ry:
At the trumpet sound we'll wake!
"Death is swallowed up in vict'ry!"
when we meet our King of Grace.
Every year we thought was wasted,
every night we cried "How long?"
All will be a passing moment
in our Saviour's vict'ry song

We will see our wounded Saviour, we'll behold him face to face; And we'll hear our anguished stories sung as vict'ry songs of grace.

Chorus

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God's Word

First Reading: Col 3:12-17, "Love and Peace in the Body", p. 984

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 133

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

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: Philemon 1-25, p. 1000

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Reconciled in Fellowship (Mark Payne)

Oh How Good It Is

Oh how good it is, when the family of God, dwell together in spirit, in love and unity; Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love are the fruits of his presence here among us.

So with one voice
we'll sing to the Lord,
And with one heart
we'll live out his word
Til the whole world sees
the Redeemer has come,
for He dwells in the presence
of His people.

Oh how good it is, on this journey we share, to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn. For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace, when we offer the blessing of belonging.

Oh how good it is, to embrace his command to prefer one another, forgive as he forgives. When we live as one we all share in the love of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

Getty, Holmes & Townend © 2014 Getty Music Ps 133

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, 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

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, 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. "Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Pro 3:9)

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 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.

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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:

IN THE COMING WEEK		
Thu 4 th May	Psalm Sing	Start 7:15pm
Sun 7 th May	Sunday Worship & Lunch	Jer 1:1-19, Summoned to Serve