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## *The Genesis of Jesus*

*“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ,  
the son of David, the son of Abraham.”  
(Matt 1:1)*

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### 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!** *(Psalm 105:1-4)*

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*

## *Psalm 63. O Lord My God Most Earnestly.*

O LORD, my God, most earnestly  
I seek your holy face,  
within your house again to see  
the glories of your grace.

Apart from you I long and thirst,  
and naught can satisfy;  
I wander in a desert land  
where all the streams are dry.

The loving-kindness of my God  
is more than life to me,  
so I will praise you all my days  
and pray continually.

In you my soul is satisfied,  
my darkness turns to light,  
and joyful meditations fill  
the watches of the night.

Beneath the shadow of your wings  
I sing my joy and praise.  
Your right hand is my strong support  
through troubled nights and days.

All those who seek my life will fall;  
my life is in your hand.  
God's king and people will rejoice;  
in victory they will stand.

*George. C. Stebbins (1878)*

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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)*

## *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it  
mount of God's redeeming love.

Here I find my greatest treasure;  
hither by thy help I've come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger,  
bought me with his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

*Robert Robinson, 1758  
The Psalter Hymnal, 1987*

## God's Word

*Rom 12:9-21, Loving Your Neighbour, p. 948*

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

### *Psalm 76*

In Judah God is known; his name is great in Israel. His abode has been established in Salem, his dwelling place in Zion. There he broke the flashing arrows, the shield, the sword, and the weapons of war.

**Glorious are you, more majestic than the mountains full of prey. The stouthearted were stripped of their spoil; they sank into sleep; all the men of war were unable to use their hands. At your rebuke, O God of Jacob, both rider and horse lay stunned.**

But you, you are to be feared! Who can stand before you when once your anger is roused?

From the heavens you uttered judgement; the earth feared and was still, when God arose to establish judgement, to save all the humble of the earth.

**Surely the wrath of man shall praise you; the remnant of wrath you will put on like a belt. Make your vows to the LORD your God and perform them; let all around him bring gifts to him who is to be feared, who cuts off the spirit of princes, who is to be feared by the kings of the earth.**

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: Matt 1:1-17, p. 807*

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

*Sermon: The Genesis of Jesus (Mark Payne)*

## *Good Christians All, Rejoice*

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss,  
Jesus Christ was born for this;

He hath op'ed the heavenly door,  
and all are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christians all, rejoice  
with heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save,  
Calls you one and calls you all,  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

*J. M. Neale*

## *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.*

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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." (Prov 3:9)*

## *Psalm 45 (O King)*

O King, you are most worthy,  
of men you are the best  
Your words are true and gracious,  
you are forever blessed  
Take up your sword in splendour,  
ride forth in majesty  
For justice and mercy  
and true humility  
Your arrows pierce your enemies,  
you march across the land  
The peoples and the nations  
against you cannot stand

Your throne will last forever,  
with justice you shall reign  
You love all that is righteous  
and hate all evil gain  
So God has richly blessed you  
with joy abundantly  
Your robes are all fragrant,  
your courts are ivory  
There princesses attend you,  
sweet music from of old  
Your future queen awaits you  
arrayed in finest gold

O bride forsake all others,  
don't give your love abroad  
The king desires your beauty;  
so honour him your Lord  
The gown he gives is glorious,  
the threads are twined with gold  
In shimmering colours  
the envy of the world  
A joyful crowd is with her,  
with gladness now they sing  
And finally she enters  
the palace of the king

This king will reign forever,  
his sons upon the earth  
And ev'ry generation  
will tell of his great worth  
All nations will soon praise him  
and fall down at his feet  
His kingdom established,  
where truth and mercy meet  
O Jesus we adore you,  
our lover and our king  
Your church, your bride is waiting  
and so to you we sing

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## Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the Name of Christ, Amen.**

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## Notes & Notices

# The Gospel of Matthew

- 1:1 - 4:16      The Person of Jesus, the Christ
- 4:17 - 16:20    The Ministry of Jesus (Galilee)
- 16:21 - 25:46    The Ministry of Jesus (Judea)
- 26:1 - 28:20     The Passion, Resurrection & Commission of Jesus

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

**Please diarise and pray for the following:**

<b><i>The Coming Week...</i></b>		
<b>Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Fellowship Group (What Does it Mean to Fear the Lord? Ch. 1)</b>	<b>Alan F</b>
<b>Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Fellowship Group (What Does it Mean to Fear the Lord? Ch. 1)</b>	<b>Mark</b>
<b>Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b>	<b>Online</b>
<b>Sun 17<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Lord's Day Worship (The Holy Spirit)</b>	<b>Bob Letham</b>
<b><i>Further Ahead...</i></b>		
<b>Tue 26<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>	<b>Women in the Word</b>	<b>Hilary</b>