



## *Light in the Darkness*

*“the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light ” (Matt 4.16)*

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### Call to Worship

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power  
and the glory and the victory and the majesty,  
for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

**Yours is the kingdom, O Lord,  
and you are exalted as head above all.**

*(1 Chr 29:11)*

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 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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## 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:

*"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*

*"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since,  
therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him  
from the wrath of God."* (Rom 5:8-9)

## *Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me*

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer!  
There is no more  
for heaven now to give.  
He is my joy,  
my righteousness and freedom,  
My steadfast love,  
my deep and boundless peace.  
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus.  
For my life is wholly bound to His.  
Oh how strange and divine,  
I can sing, "All is mine",  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken.  
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay.  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,  
For in my need, His power is displayed.  
To this I hold,  
my Shepherd will defend me,  
Through the deepest valley He will lead.  
Oh the night has been won,  
and I shall overcome,  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven.  
The future sure,  
the price it has been paid.  
For Jesus bled  
and suffered for my pardon.  
And He was raised  
to overthrow the grave.  
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated.  
Jesus now and ever is my plea.  
Oh the chains are released,  
I can sing, "I am free",  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus.  
For He has said  
that He will bring me home.  
And day by day I know He will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne.  
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
All the glory evermore to Him.  
When the race is complete,  
still my lips shall repeat.  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

*Farren, Thompson, Robinson*  
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## God's Word

*First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7*

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

## *Responsive Psalm: Psalm 67*

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
**that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all  
the peoples praise you!

**Let the nations be glad and sing for  
joy, for you judge the peoples with  
equity and guide the nations upon  
earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all  
the peoples praise you!

**The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.**

God shall bless us;

**let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

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 4:12-17*

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

## *Sermon: Light in the Darkness (Rev Jonty Rhodes)*

### *Be Thou My Vision*

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me,  
save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping,  
thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom,  
and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father and I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee  
one.

Be thou my battle shield,  
sword for my fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
Thou my soul's shelter  
and thou my high tow'r:

Raise thou me heav'n-ward,  
O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
Riches I heed not,  
nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and thou only the first in my heart,  
High King of heaven,  
my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven,  
my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys,  
O bright heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart,  
whatever befall,  
Still be my vision,  
O Ruler of all.

*Public Domain (E.H. Hull, M. E. Byrne)*

## *Creed (Heidelberg Catechism)*

Believer, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,  
am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins,  
and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;  
and so preserves me that without the will of my Father in heaven  
not a hair can fall from my head;  
indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.  
Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,  
and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.**

## *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.**

*Please be seated.*

# 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*

**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.

*"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." (Deut 16:17)*

## Psalm 134

You servants of the LORD our God  
who work and pray both day and night,  
in God's own house lift up your hands  
and praise the LORD with all your might.

the LORD show you his gracious face.  
He who created heaven and earth  
give you his everlasting peace.

The LORD God bless you from his  
throne,

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## Benediction

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

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## Notices

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

<i><b>In the Week...</b></i>		
Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Food & Chat	See Jenny
Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Prayer Meeting (Online)	7.15pm
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Women's Christmas Event & Refreshments	7pm. See Hilary
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Morning Worship - Rev Alan Steel	10am
<i><b>Further ahead...</b></i>		
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Men's Ministry (All ages): <i>Defending the Faith 1</i>	7pm. See Alan S
Thu 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Church Meeting re Building	7pm. See Mark/Alan F

*Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are from the English Standard Version (ESV). CCLI Licence: 731672.*