



## *Righteousness, Anger and Lust*

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst  
for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” (Matt 5:6)*

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### Call to Worship

Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,  
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

**Lift up your hands to the holy place  
and bless the LORD!  
May the LORD bless you from Zion,  
he who made heaven and earth!**

*(Ps 134)*

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 (Psalm 103 (a))*

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 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.*

## *Prayer of Confession*

**Almighty and most merciful Father, 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*

*"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)*

## *Psalm 103 (b)*

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!

## God's Word

*First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-16, p. 611*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Responsive Psalm: Psalm 78:19-31*

They spoke against God, saying, "Can God spread a table in the wilderness?  
**He struck the rock so that water gushed out and streams overflowed. Can he also give bread or provide meat for his people?"**

Therefore, when the Lord heard, he was full of wrath; a fire was kindled against Jacob; his anger rose against Israel,  
**because they did not believe in God and did not trust his saving power.**

Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven,  
**and he rained down on them manna to eat and gave them the grain of heaven.**

Man ate of the bread of the angels; he sent them food in abundance.  
**He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens, and by his power he led out the south wind;**

he rained meat on them like dust, winged birds like the sand of the seas;  
**he let them fall in the midst of their camp, all around their dwellings.**

And they ate and were well filled, for he gave them what they craved.

**But before they had satisfied their craving, while the food was still in their mouths,**  
the anger of God rose against them, and he killed the strongest of them  
**and laid low the young men of Israel.**

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 5:17-30, p. 810*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: "Righteousness, Anger and Lust" (Mark Payne)*

## *O Church Arise*

O Church, arise,  
and put your armour on;  
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.  
For now the weak can say  
that they are strong

In the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth,  
We'll stand against the devil's lies;  
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,  
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul  
But to rage against the captor;  
And with the sword  
that makes the wounded whole,  
We will fight with faith and valour.  
When faced with trials on every side  
We know the outcome is secure,  
And Christ will have  
the prize for which He died,  
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross,  
where love and mercy meet,  
As the Son of God is stricken;  
Then see His foes  
lie crushed beneath His feet,  
For the Conqueror has risen!  
And as the stone is rolled away,  
And Christ emerges from the grave,  
This victory march continues till the day  
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come  
put strength in every stride,  
Give grace for every hurdle,  
That we may run  
with faith to win the prize  
Of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old still line the way,  
Retelling triumphs of His grace,  
We hear their calls  
and hunger for the day  
When with Christ we stand in glory.

*Stuart Townend & Keith Getty*

## *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.**

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## 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*

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

## *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*

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## **Benediction and Dismissal**

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

