



Our Father (II)

*“Pray then like this: ‘Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.’” (Matt 6:9)*

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.

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Psalm 65 (Praise Awaits You, God, in Zion)

Praise awaits you God in Zion,
Soon to you all flesh will come.
Though our sins prevail against us
You atone for every one.
Blessed are those
you choose and welcome.
Dwelling in your courts of grace.
We are filled with every blessing,
Satisfied in you always.

Holy God and mighty Saviour,
Hope of all the farthest seas.
When we pray you hear and answer
You make known
your wondrous deeds.

By your strength
you formed the mountains,
Stilled the roaring of the waves.
Earth rejoices at your goodness,
Dawn and evening sing your praise.

From your river ever-flowing
You give life to all the land.
Autumn rains and grain at harvest,
You provide for every man.
All the year
is crowned with bounty,
Deserts bloom and hills bear fruit.
Hills and valleys, all creation
Lift their hymn of praise to you.

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

"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)

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'.

God's Word

First Reading: 2 Samuel 15, p. 266

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm : Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; each one appears before God in Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

Second Reading: Matt 6:7-15, p. 811

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Our Father (II) (Mark Payne)

Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed! For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favour and honour. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

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

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness,
O God my Father;
there is no shadow
of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions,
they fail not;
as Thou hast been,
Thou forever wilt be.

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed
Thy hand hath provided:
great is Thy faithfulness,
Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter,
and springtime and harvest;
sun, moon, and stars
in their courses above
join with all nature
in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness,
mercy, and love.

Pardon for sin and
a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence
to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and
bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine,
with ten thousand beside!

Thomas O. Chisholm (1923)

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.**

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)

Psalm 67 (O God, To Us Show Mercy)

O God, to us show mercy
And bless us in your grace;
Cause now to shine upon us
The brightness of your face;
That so your way most holy
On earth may soon be known,
And unto every people
Your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you,
Let all the nations sing;
In every land let praises
And songs of gladness ring;

For you shall judge the people
In truth and righteousness,
And you shall lead the nations
Your justice to confess.

Let all the peoples praise you,
All tongues and tribes should sing,
For earth in rich abundance
To us her fruit shall bring.
The Lord our God shall bless us;
Let all the earth maintain
The praise it owes its Maker,
The reverence due His name.

Benediction and Dismissal

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

Notes & Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

<i>The Coming Week...</i>		
Thu 25th Apr	Prayer Meeting (CCS Vision, Affiliation & Location)	7.15pm
<i>Further Ahead...</i>		
Sun 28th Apr	Morning Worship at S6C (SP1 2JJ)	**10.30am
Tue 30th Apr	Women in the Word	Ref Hilary
Thu 9th May	Church Meeting (CCS Vision, Affiliation & Location)	7.15pm

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