



## *The Bread of Life*

*“And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.”*  
*(Matt 14:20-21)*

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### Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
**for his steadfast love endures forever!**

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,  
**whom he has redeemed from trouble  
and gathered in from the lands,  
from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.**

*(Ps 107:1-3)*

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 104 (My Soul, Bless the Lord)*

My soul, bless the Lord!  
The Lord is most great,  
with glory arrayed,  
majestic His state;  
the light is His garment,  
the skies are His shade,  
and over the waters  
His courts He has laid.

He rides on the clouds,  
the wings of the storm,  
the lightning and wind  
His bidding perform;  
the earth He has founded;  
it firmly shall stand,  
with waters its clothing  
ordained from His hand.

He waters the hills  
with rain from the skies,  
and plentiful grass  
and herbs He supplies,  
gives food to the cattle,  
and blesses our toil  
with bread in abundance,  
with wine and with oil.

The trees which the Lord  
has planted are fed,  
and over the earth  
their branches are spread;  
they keep in their shelter  
the birds of the air,  
the life of each creature  
the Lord makes His care.

Your Spirit, O Lord,  
makes life to abound,  
the earth is renewed,  
and fruitful the ground;  
to God be all glory  
and wisdom and might,  
let God in His creatures  
forever delight.

Rejoicing in God,  
my thought shall be sweet,  
while sinners depart  
in ruin complete;  
my soul, bless Jehovah,  
His name be adored;  
come praise Him, you people,  
and worship the Lord!

*Trinity Hymnal (Rev. ed.) #126*

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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:

*"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy."* (Prov 28:13)

We will 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*

*"Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* (Matt 11:28-30)

## *Psalm 119 (Your Word, a Light Unto My Path)*

Your word, a light unto my path,  
A lamp unto my feet.  
My soul has sworn, and will confirm  
Your righteous ways to keep.

In my affliction, give me life  
According to Your word;  
Accept the offer of my praise,  
And teach Your law, O Lord.

This world brings danger to my soul,  
Yet I uphold Your way.  
The wicked lay a snare for me;  
I shall not go astray.

Your promise, my inheritance;  
With joy, my heart ascends!  
I set my heart to keep Your word  
From now until the end.

*Psalm 119:105-112 (Nun)*  
*Words: © 2018 by David P. Regier*  
*Tune: Amazing Grace*

## God's Word

*First Reading: 2 Kings 4:38-44, p. 310*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Responsive Verse: Ps 40:11-17*

As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain  
your mercy from me; your steadfast love  
and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!  
**For evils have encompassed me beyond  
number; my iniquities have overtaken me,  
and I cannot see; they are more than the  
hairs of my head; my heart fails me.**

Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me! O LORD,  
make haste to help me!

**Let those be put to shame and  
disappointed altogether who seek to  
snatch away my life; let those be turned  
back and brought to dishonor who delight  
in my hurt!**

Let those be appalled because of their  
shame who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"

**But may all who seek you rejoice and be  
glad in you; may those who love your  
salvation say continually, "Great is the  
LORD!"**

As for me, I am poor and needy, but the  
Lord takes thought for me.

**You are my help and my deliverer; do not  
delay, O my God!**

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 14:13-21, p. 820*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: The Bread of Life (Rev. Alan Steele)*

*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, simply allow the bread and wine to pass by, and reflect on what is taking place.*

## *Upon a Life I Have Not Lived*

Upon a life I have not lived,  
Upon a death I did not die,  
Another's life, Another's death,  
I stake my whole eternity.

Lord, I believe; oh deal with me  
As one who has Thy word believed!  
I take the gift, Lord look on me  
As one who has Thy gift received.

Not on the tears which I have shed:  
Not on the sorrows I have known,  
Another's tears, Another's griefs,  
On them I rest, on them alone.

Here at Thy feast, I grasp the pledge  
Which life eternal to me seals,  
Here in the bread and wine I read  
The grace and peace Thy death reveals.

Jesus, O Son of God, I build  
On what Thy cross has done for me;  
There both my death and life I read,  
My guilt, my pardon there I see.

O fullness of the eternal grace,  
O wonders past all wondering!  
Here in the hall of love and song,  
We sing the praises of our King.

*Horatius Bonar (1881)*

*Orig: On Merit Not My Own I Stand*

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*

**Heavenly Father, we offer you eternal praise and thanks that you have so blessed us poor sinners, that we would be drawn into the communion of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and whom you have given us as the food and drink of life eternal. We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, and 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.  
*"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)*

## *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah!  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty,  
Hold me with thy powerful hand;  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more\*  
Feed me till I want no more.

(w) Open thou the crystal fountain,  
(w) Whence the healing stream doth flow  
(m) Let the fiery, cloudy pillar,  
    Lead me all my journey through;  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
Be thou still my strength and shield,\*  
Be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of deaths, and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side;  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever sing to Thee,\*  
I will ever sing to Thee.

Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever sing to Thee,\*  
I will ever sing to Thee.

*\* Men echo 2nd phrase  
William Williams (1717-1791)*

# Benediction & Dismissal

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 items below:**

| <i>Coming up...</i>      |   |                |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Fellowship Group                                | Speak to Alan  |
| Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Fellowship Group                                | Speak to Mark  |
| Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan | Morning Worship (Matt 14:22-36) & Church Lunch! | 10am           |
| Tue 21 <sup>st</sup> Jan | Food & Chat                                     | Speak to Jenny |
| Thu 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan | Prayer Meeting                                  | At Finch's     |

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