



Walking on the Water

*“O you of little faith,
why did you doubt?” (Matt 14:31)*

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!
Praise the name of the Lord,
give praise, O servants of the Lord,
**who stand in the house of the Lord,
in the courts of the house of our God!**

(Ps 135:1,2)

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

Thou Whose Almighty Word

Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessèd Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.

John Marriott (1780-1825)
Ref: Gen 1:2; 1 John 1:5-7

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 40

When, after patient waiting,
My nightmare had an end,
And I was pulled from that deep pit
And placed on solid ground,
My voice rang with the music of
The song you gave to me:
O Lord my God, I'll praise you
For you have set me free.

Many will see my thankfulness
And learn to trust you too.
This is the path to happiness,
A path the proud eschew.
You've multiplied your wondrous deeds.
No one is like the Lord!
However much I praise you,
There's still more to be told.

You want my heart, my very self,
More than you want my gifts.
Teach me to love the things you love.
May my will bow to yours.

I won't hide what you've done for me:
I'll name and praise your grace.
And you'll not stint your goodness, Lord,
Or cease your faithfulness.

And how I need such steadfast love,
With all my sins and fears.
I've lost my footing—rescue me
And wipe away my tears.
Don't let my enemies rejoice.
May they instead be shamed.
But let all those who long for you
Gladly exalt your name.

I am a beggar yet—my God!—
You hold me in your thoughts.
You've rescued me time and again.
Come quickly to me, Lord!
All glory be to God who hears
His people when they cry:
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Be praise eternally.

God's Word

First Reading: Job 9, p. 422

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 77:11-20

I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. **I will ponder all your work, and meditate on your mighty deeds.**

Your way, O God, is holy. What god is great like our God? **You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples.**

You with your arm redeemed your people, the children of Jacob and Joseph. **When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; indeed, the deep trembled.**

The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side. **The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lighted up the world; the earth trembled and shook.**

Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen. **You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

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 14:22-36, p. 820

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Walking on the Water" (Mark Payne)

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform;
he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
of never-failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs,
and works his sovereign will.

You fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds you so much dread
are big with mercy and shall break
in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
but trust Him for His grace;
behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err
and scan his work in vain:
God is his own interpreter,
and he will make it plain.

William Cowper, 1774

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. 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.

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 146 (Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah)

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
They shall die, to dust returning,
And their purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blest whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heaven and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.

Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
Raises those bowed down with anguish,
Makes the sightless eyes to see.
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and widow,
Judgement on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, your God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing.

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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>Coming up...</i>		
Tue 21st Jan	Food & Chat	Speak to Jenny
Thu 23rd Jan	Prayer Meeting 7pm for 7.15pm	At Finch's