

Worship in Song

God's saints of old

Countdown, Welcome & Theme

Call to Worship - Revelation 7: 9-12

And I looked, and there was a great crowd that no one could number. They were from every nation, tribe, people and language. They were standing before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out with a loud voice:
Victory belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

And the angels fell face down before the throne and worshipped God, saying:
Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen!

Worship in Song

For all the saints who from their labours rest,
Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be for ever blessed.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness, still their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

O may thy soldiers, faithful true and bold,
Fight as the saints, who nobly fought of old,
And win, with them, the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

O blest communion, fellowship divine.
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia.

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's
farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Alleluia, Alleluia.

Confessing the Beatitudes - Matthew 5.3-12

Lord Jesus, you taught us that in your kingdom, "Blessed are the poor in spirit"
We are sorry for times when we have been rich in pride.

"Blessed are those who mourn"
We are sorry for times when we have not shown much sorrow for our sin.

"Blessed are the meek"
We are sorry for times when we have been rebellious by nature.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness"
We are sorry for times when we desire evil and have little longing for your true goodness.

"Blessed are the merciful"
We are sorry for times when we are harsh and impatient.

"Blessed are the pure in heart"
We are sorry for times when we have impure hearts.

"Blessed are the peacemakers"
We are sorry for times when we have not sought reconciliation.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness"
but our lives do not challenge the world.

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me"
We are sorry for times when we do not make it known that we are yours.

Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us our sins. Renew us and lead us by your Holy Spirit so that we may seek first your kingdom and your righteousness and walk joyfully in the way of your blessing.

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty and eternal God, you have kindled the flame of love in the hearts of the saints: grant to us the same faith and power of love, that, as we rejoice in their triumphs, we may be sustained by their example and fellowship; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Bible Reading

Ephesians 1.11-23 (*Church Bible page 976*)

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Worship in Song

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.

Affirmation of Faith

Using the words from Colossians 1, let us confess our faith in the Son of God:
Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. By him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, thrones, powers, rulers, and authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the Church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from the dead. Amen.

Intercessions

At the end: Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near.

The peace of God be always with you.
and also with you.

Offertory Prayer

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

The Eucharistic Prayer

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 thanks and praise.

Father, you made the world and love your creation. You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour. His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Christ is the bread of life:

When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

We receive communion

Worship in Song

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
This our song shall ever be;
For we have no hope, nor Saviour,
If we have not hope in thee.

All for Jesus, thou wilt give us
Strength to serve thee, hour by hour,
None can move us from thy presence,
While we trust thy love and power.

All for Jesus, at thine table
Thou wilt give us sweet content;
There, dear Lord, we shall receive thee
In the solemn sacrament.

All for Jesus, thou hast loved us;
All for Jesus, thou hast died;
All for Jesus, thou art with us;
All for Jesus crucified.

All for Jesus, all for Jesus,
This the church's song must be,
Till, at last, we all are gathered
One in love and one in thee.

Worship in Song

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up

In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long
Oh God of Jacob be my strength

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom

Worship in Song

When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold. He must hold me fast

He will hold me fast, he will hold me fast
For my Saviour loves me so, he will hold me fast

Those he saves are his delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in his holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by him at such a cost. He will hold me fast

For my life he bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last

Prayer after Communion

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Notices

Worship in Song

God's saints of old through history told
Of the One who was to come
A Son a King a Lamb to be slain
For the sins of all the world

He's the Promise of the Ages
Lifted up to save us, Jesus Christ our sacrifice
He's the Fount of living water
King and Friend forever
Bow before the Promise of the Ages

In flesh He came yet chose to remain
With the outcast and the poor
He bled He died was raised glorified
Now He lives forever more

Bridge

Lift your hands and sing hallelujah to the
King of all the earth
Raise your voice and sing hallelujah to the
King of all the earth

Blessing

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself, the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service, the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Music as we leave

When I fear my faith will fail