

Worship in Song

With a prayer you fed the hungry

Countdown & Welcome

Words of Introduction

Gracious God, give us the ears to hear your voice, the eyes to see your glory, the hearts to know your love, and the will to worship you. For you are God; we are your people, and it is right that we offer you praise. Bless this time of worship, that we may know your presence and the power of your Spirit. In the name of our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let the people praise you, O God;
Let all the people praise you.

Let your ways be known on earth;
Your saving power in all the world. Amen.

Worship in Song

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but thee;
Yet possessing every blessing
If our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
All our weakness thou dost know,
Thou didst tread this earth before us,
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,
Through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy:
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,
Nothing can our peace destroy.

Confession

Lord God, we confess to you our sin: those things which have hurt others and which have offended you.

Forgive us for not investing your gifts wisely. We have been negligent with the time and energy you give us - often spending it all on ourselves while others have had to do more than their share of helping and caring.

We confess, O Lord, that through greed, or ignorance, we have not always used the wealth you give us for the benefit of others.

Forgive us for being satisfied with sharing so little with those who are in need, while spending so much, not only on our needs, but also on our desires.

We confess, O Lord, that we are prone to close our hearts and minds to the needs of the poor and vulnerable.

Forgive us for when we have buried our talents and failed to work with all the things you give us.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive us our sins and make us holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer for Today

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Reading

Matthew 25.14-30 (*Church Bible page 830*)

This is the gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Interview - Phil Briggs

Worship in Song

With a prayer you fed the hungry
With a cry you stilled the storm
With a look you had compassion
On the desperate and forlorn
With a touch you healed the leper
With a shout you raised the dead
With a word expelled the demons
With a blessing broke the bread

Love incarnate love divine
Captivate this heart of mine
Till all I do speaks of you

As a sheep before the shearer
You were silent in your pain
You endured humiliation
At the hands of those you'd made
And as hell unleashed its fury
You were lifted on a tree
Crying Father God forgive them
Place their punishment on me

I will feed the poor and hungry
I will stand up for the truth
I will take my cross and follow
To the corners of the earth
And I ask that you so fill me
With your peace your power your breath
That I never love my life so much
To shrink from facing death

Sermon - Phil Briggs

An Affirmation of Faith

We believe the grace of God has dawned upon us with healing for all the world, and so we rejoice to declare our faith in him:

We trust in God the Father, who has revealed his love and kindness to us, and in his mercy saved us, not for any good deed of our own, but because he is merciful.

We trust in Jesus Christ, who gave himself up for us to free us from our sin, and set us apart for himself a people eager to do good.

We trust in the Holy Spirit, whom God poured out on us generously through Christ our Saviour so that justified by grace we might become heirs with the hope of eternal life. Amen.

Prayers

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

Church Together in Thornton Covenant

The Peace

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Offertory Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for all the gifts you have entrusted to us. Help us to remember that all we have comes from you and is to be used to serve you. Make us faithful and trustworthy servants, giving generously from our hearts. **Amen.**

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.

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation; in your love you made us for yourself. When we turned away you did not reject us, but came to meet us in your Son.
You embraced us as your children and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.

In Christ you shared our life that we might live in him and he in us.
He opened his arms of love upon the cross and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends he took bread, and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.
Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks, and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins; do this in remembrance of me.

Father, we do this in remembrance of him: his blood is shed for all.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory, send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy gifts make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world we offer you this sacrifice of praise and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

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

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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

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

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated Lord to thee
Take my moments and my days
Let them flow in ceaseless praise

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of thy love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine
It shall be no longer mine
Take my heart, it is thine own
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love my Lord I pour
At thy feet its treasure store
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

Worship in Song

My soul will sing with all the strength I have in me
I will rejoice with every day he gives
I will recall the wonders he has shown to me
His power to heal his mercy to forgive
We join with angels to sing his praises
He does not treat us as our sins deserve

High as the heavens reach above the earth
Is your unfailing love, is your unfailing love
Far as the east is banished from the west
You took our sins from us
removed our sins from us
How wide how high is your unfailing love

Our King delights to show compassion to the weak
Their deepest needs he loves to satisfy
Throughout the earth
His justice and his mercy speak
And he will run to meet the victim's cry
From everlasting to everlasting
Our youth renewed with every step we take

Though we are dust a moment in eternity
As flowers bloom today and then are gone
He crowns our lives with beauty and with dignity
His patience smiles on all who turn to him
From generation to generation
We'll tell the story of his faithfulness

Worship in Song

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,
Lord in your suff'ring world, this is our prayer.
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace,
Sunrise to sunset, your kingdom increase.

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

God of the poor, friend of the weak,
Give us compassion we pray,
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love from a spark to a flame

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
Cities for sanctu'ry, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing fields scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams,
Plundered and poisoned our future, our dreams
Lord end our madness, carelessness, greed,
Make us content with the things that we need.

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame,
Until your justice burns brightly again;
Until the nations learn of your ways,
Seek your salvation and bring you their praise.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer
of the broken, you have fed us at the table of
life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness
and peace, that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Worship in Song

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry;
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain;
I have wept for love of them - they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone;
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them - my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts are satisfied;
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Blessing

Go in peace; love and care for one another in
Christ's name, and may God bless you with
every gift needful for his work, may the Spirit
grant you the willingness to risk yourself for
the sake of the gospel, and may the love and
compassion of Jesus dwell richly within you till
the time of his coming both now and
forevermore; and the blessing of God
almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

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

Music as we leave

My soul will sing with all the strength I have in me