

Worship in Song

At your name

Welcome & Introduction

About forty days after his birth, our Lord, Jesus Christ was presented to God in the Temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph. While he was there Simeon and Anna recognised him as the long-awaited Messiah. Simeon said: "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

Video - Jesus Presented at the Temple

Worship in Song

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from heaven you came running
There was mercy in your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of glory, majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings

To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross
For even in your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake you died

And the morning that you rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint
By his blood and in His Name
In his freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me

Confession

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ: I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life". Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith.

God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are sinners. We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done, and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past, and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon and forgiveness of all your sins, time for amendment of life, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer for Today

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus

Christ 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

Luke 2.22-40 (*New Testament p857*)

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

Sermon

Worship in Song

There is a hope that burns within my heart,
That gives me strength for every passing day
A glimpse of glory now revealed in meagre part,
Yet drives all doubt away:

I stand in Christ, with sins forgiven;
And Christ in me, the hope of heaven.
My highest calling and my deepest joy,
To make his will my home.

There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
A consolation strong against despair,
That when the world has plunged me in its deepest pit
I find the Saviour there.

Through present sufferings, future's fear,
He whispers 'courage' in my ear.
For I am safe in everlasting arms,
And they will lead me home.

There is a hope that stands the test of time,
That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave,
To see the matchless beauty of a day divine
When I behold his face.

When sufferings cease and sorrows die,
And every longing satisfied.
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
For I am truly home

Prayer

Like Simeon, may I grow old in hope and wonder.
Like Anna, may I be in love with you all my days.
May I be open to truth, open to surprises.
May I let your spirit into my life.
May I let your justice change my behaviour.
May I live in the brightness of your joy.

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.

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord 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. 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.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because, by appearing in the temple, he comes near to us in judgement; the Word made flesh searches the hearts of all your people and brings to light the brightness of your splendour.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever 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.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty 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.

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

Here is love vast as the ocean,
Loving kindness as the flood,
When the Prince of life, our ransom,
Shed for us his precious blood.
Who his love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing his praise?
He can never be forgotten
Throughout heaven's eternal days.

On the mount of crucifixion
Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers,
Poured incessant from above,
And heaven's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Worship in Song

At your name the mountains shake and crumble
At your name the oceans roar and tumble
At your name angels will bow
The earth will rejoice, your people cry out

Lord of all the earth we shout your name
Shout your name
Filling up the skies with endless praise
Endless praise, Yahweh Yahweh
We love to shout your name oh Lord

At your name the morning breaks in glory
At your name creation sings your story
At your name angels will bow
The earth will rejoice, your people cry out

Bridge

There is no one like our God
We will praise you praise you
There's no one like our God
We will sing we will sing

Worship in Song

Be still for the presence of the Lord the Holy
One is here
Come bow before him now with reverence and fear
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground
Be still for the presence of the Lord the Holy
One is here

Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned
How awesome is the sight, our radiant King of light
Be still for the glory of the Lord is shining all around

Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place
He comes to cleanse and heal to minister his grace
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place

Prayer after Communion

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we,
who have received these gifts beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to
bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns,
now and for ever. Amen.

Worship in Song

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me save that thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true Word
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord
Thou my great Father, I thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one

Be thou my shield and my sword for the fight
Be thou my dignity be thou my might
Thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower
Raise thou me heavenward O power of my power

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance now and always
Thou and thou only, be first in my heart
High King of heaven my treasure thou art

High King of heaven when vict'ry is won
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's Sun
Heart of my own heart whatever befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Blessing

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, fill you with
radiance and scatter the darkness from your
path. Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart.
Christ, the Dayspring from on high, draw near
to guide your feet into the way of peace. 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.