

Worship in Song

What is our hope in life and death

Welcome

Lighting the first Advent Candle

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, God of our ancestors: to you be praise and glory for ever. You called the patriarchs to live by the light of faith and to journey in the hope of your promised fulfilment. May we be obedient to your call and be ready and watchful to receive your Christ, a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for you are our light and our salvation. Blessed be God for ever.

Worship in Song

O Lord my God. When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works thy hand hath made.
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder.
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my saviour God to thee,
How great thou art. How great thou art.

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die - I scarce can take it in.
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
To take me home - what joy shall fill my heart.
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art.

Confession

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light
of the world, to reveal your love for all people.
We confess that our sin and pride hide the
brightness of your light. We turn away from the

poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive
for peace. Forgive us, Lord. In your mercy,
cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again
with your Spirit, so that, as forgiven and
renewed people, we may reflect the love and life
of Jesus Christ into our world. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Our God is a God of grace and mercy and love;
know that our sins have been forgiven. May
we be strengthened in all goodness. Since we
have been raised with Christ, let us seek the
things that are above, where Christ is, seated
at the right hand of God. Amen.

Special Prayer for Today

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works
of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now
in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus
Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last
day, when he shall come again in his glorious
majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may
rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Bible Reading

Revelation 19.1-21 (*New Testament page 1039*)

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon

Worship in Song

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to him belong
Who holds our days within his hand
What comes apart from his command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah, our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah, now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is his grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ he lives Christ he lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Affirmation of Faith

Using words from Philippians chapter 2, let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God: Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers

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

The Peace

May the God of peace make you completely holy,
ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Worship in Song

Majesty worship His majesty
Unto Jesus be all glory honour and praise
Majesty kingdom authority
Flow from His throne
Unto His own His anthem raise
So exalt lift up on high the name of Jesus
Magnify come glorify Christ Jesus the King
Majesty worship His majesty
Jesus who died now glorified, King of all kings.

Offertory Prayer

Everything in heaven and earth comes from you,
Lord. We give you only what is yours. May you
be praised forever and ever. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here. His Spirit is with us.

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 indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all place to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

And now we give you thanks because you sent him to redeem us from sin and death and to make us inheritors of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may with joy behold his appearing, and in confidence may stand before him.

For he is our great high priest who has loosed us from our sins and has made us to be a royal priesthood to you our God and Father.

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.

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in your tender mercy, gave your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; he instituted, and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood;

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.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in remembrance of the precious death and passion, the mighty resurrection and glorious ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, we offer you through him this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

Grant that by his merits and death, and through faith in his blood, we and all your Church may receive forgiveness of our sins and all other benefits of his passion. Although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we pray that you will accept this the duty and service that we owe.

Do not weigh our merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all who share in this holy communion with your grace and heavenly blessing;

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.

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 - during communion

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 - during communion

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

Prayer after Communion

O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship in Song

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

Christ alone cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm he is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide his face
I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone
Faultless I stand before the throne
Faultless I stand before the throne

Blessing

Now go out into the world in peace. Keep alert, for we do not know the hour when we will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. Be faithful in service and persistent in prayer; be Advent people, loving and serving the Lord; and 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.