

Worship in Song
All who are thirsty

Welcome

Lighting the second Advent Candle

(for John the Baptist)

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, John told the people to prepare, for you were very near: as Christmas grows closer day by day, help us to be ready to welcome you now. Amen.

Worship in Song

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave he rose again.
And as he stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am his and he is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
Till he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Confession

In this season of busyness, and stress, God of Light, we confess how easy it is to slip off your paths and forget to prepare for your coming. Father, forgive us: save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you
Father, forgive us: save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do, and think and say;
Father, forgive us: save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you
by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us: save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son
Father, forgive us: save us and help us.

Assurance of Pardon

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and for ever. Amen.

Special Prayer for Today

God of faithfulness and truth, you sent your servant John the Baptist to preach in the desert and summon the people to repentance. Make us and all things new, that in the wilderness of our world and in our lives, we also may prepare a way for Jesus. Amen.

Bible Reading

Revelation 21.1-27 *(New Testament page 1041)*

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon

Worship in Song

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of glory, the King above all kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love
That you would take my place
That you would bear my cross
You laid down your life, that I would be set free
Oh Jesus I sing for all that you've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of glory, the King of glory

Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of glory the King above all kings

Bridge

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave

Affirmation of Faith

Let us acclaim the Lord our God:
We believe in God the eternal Father; heaven
and earth are full of his glory. We believe in
Jesus Christ, his true and only Son; he
became man to set us free from sin. We
believe in the Holy Spirit; he is our advocate
and guide. We believe in one God; Father,
Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers

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

Presentation to Life Association

Worship in Song

All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord
Who can compare with the beauty of the Lord
Forever he will be the Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee and worship him alone

I will proclaim the glory of the risen Lord
Who once was slain to reconcile man to God
Forever you will be the Lamb upon the throne
I gladly bow the knee and worship you alone

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.

Almighty God, good Father to us all, your face
is turned towards your world. In love you gave
us Jesus your Son to rescue us from sin and
death. Your Word goes out to call us home to
the city where angels sing your praise. We join
with them in heaven's song:

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

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift
that comes from heaven. To the darkness
Jesus came as your light. With signs of faith
and words of hope he touched untouchables
with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the
end they turned on him. On the night he was
betrayed he came to table with his friends to
celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story:
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food; he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: This is my body, given for you all. Jesus then gave thanks for the wine; he took the cup, gave it and said: This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story:
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free. Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story:
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now that by these gifts we may feed on Christ with opened eyes and hearts on fire. May we and all who share this food offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours 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

All who are thirsty, all who are weak
Come to the fountain
Dip your heart in the stream of life.
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away
In the waves of his mercy
As deep cries out to deep

We sing: Come Lord Jesus come
Come Lord Jesus come (3 times)

Worship in Song - during communion

Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away
Slain for us and we remember
The promise made that all who come in faith
Find forgiveness at the cross
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of peace
Around the table of the King

The body of our saviour Jesus Christ
Torn for you eat and remember
The wounds that heal the death that brings us life
Paid the price to make us one
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of love
Around the table of the King

The blood that cleanses every stain of sin
Shed for you drink and remember
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
To receive the life of God
So we share in this bread of life
And we drink of his sacrifice
As a sign of our bonds of grace
Around the table of the King

And so with thankfulness and faith we rise
To respond and to remember
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ
As His body here on earth
As we share in his suffering
We proclaim Christ will come again
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
Around the table of the King

Prayer after Communion

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship in Song

Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own
Awake my soul and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die

Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole
That wars may cease
And all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years
The Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime
All hail Redeemer hail
For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity

Blessing

Christ, the Son of Righteousness, shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; 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.