

Worship in Song

Mighty God everlasting father

Welcome

Worship in Song

There is good news for the captive
Good news for the shamed
There is good news for the one who walked away
There is good news for the doubter
The one religion failed
For the good Lord has come to seek and save

He's our rescuer, he's our rescuer
We are free from sin forevermore
Oh how sweet the sound
Oh how grace abounds
We will praise the Lord our rescuer

He is beauty for the blind man, riches for the poor
He is friendship for the one the world ignores
He is pasture for the weary
Rest for those who strive
Oh the good Lord is the way the truth the life
Yes the good Lord is the way the truth the life

So come and be chainless
Come and be fearless
Come to the foot of Calvary
There is redemption for every affliction
Here at the foot of Calvary

Thanksgiving Prayer

Today, let us give thanks to God for the gift of mothers and the mother-like nurture that many people show to others in their lives. Isaiah wrote that God is like a mother to us, comforting and carrying us in her arms: 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you'.

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us. He knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children: 'Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you.'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings: 'O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing.'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care: '...but we were gentle among you, like a nursing mother caring for her little children.'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Confession

Let us call to mind our sin, our failure to value the love of others and our failure to love as Christ has loved us.

We have failed to nurture the needy,
Lord, have mercy.

We have failed to make space in our lives for the broken-hearted. **Christ, have mercy.**

We struggle to forgive those who have withheld their love from us. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins, and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Special Prayer for Today

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; 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 Readings

Ephesians 2.1-10 (*Church Bible page 976*)

Matthew 1.18-23 (*Church Bible page 807*)

Sermon

Worship in Song

You my God have saved my soul
I am yours forevermore
I won't be moved of this I'm sure
You are my God and you saved my soul

I was lost when you came for me
Held in chains by the enemy
But you broke them in victory
Now I'm free I am free

You're my joy and you are my hope
I am saved by your grace alone
I will sing of your love for me
I am free I am free

Now I stand with the Kings of kings
He has paid for my every sin
And from now through eternity
I am free I am free

Bridge

What once was dead is now alive
You gave to me the breath of life
You brought me up out from the grave
I'm bursting out with songs of praise

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

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

The Peace

Christ is our peace. He offered up his life for us with a love beyond imagining; with a love which dispels fear; with a love which holds and guides us through life's trials and joys.

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

Worship in Song

Mighty God, everlasting Father,
Wonderful Counsellor,
You're the Prince of Peace

You are Lord of heaven,
You are called Emmanuel;

God is now with us,
Ever present to deliver.
You are God eternal,
You are Lord of all the earth;
Love has come to us,
Bringing us new birth.

A light to those in darkness,
And a guide to paths of peace;
Love and mercy dawns,
Grace, forgiveness and salvation.
Light for revelation,
Glory to Your people;
Son of the Most High,
God's love gift to all.

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 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

As God's children, and heirs with Christ, we cry in the Spirit, 'Abba', Father.
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

Faithful One so unchanging
Ageless One, you're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you
I call out to you again and again
I call out to you again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm
Your love is the anchor
My hope is in you alone

Worship in Song - during communion

Your grace that leads this sinner home
From death to life forever
And sings the song of righteousness
By blood and not by merit

Your grace that reaches far and wide
To every tribe and nation
Has called my heart to enter in
The joy of Your salvation

By grace I am redeemed
By grace I am restored
And now I freely walk
into the arms of Christ my Lord

Your grace that I cannot explain
Not by my earthly wisdom
The prince of life, without a stain
Was traded for this sinner

Let praise rise up and overflow
My song resound forever
For grace will see me welcomed home
To walk beside my Saviour

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children,
you feed us in this sacrament with the food
and drink of eternal life: help us who have
tasted your goodness to grow in grace within
the household of faith; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Worship in Song

Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous things has done
In whom his world rejoices
Who from our mother's arms
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us
And keep us in his grace
And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next

All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given
The Son and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven
The one eternal God
Whom earth and heaven adore
For thus it was is now
And shall be evermore

Blessing

May the Lord who brought us all to birth,
strengthen us for daily life. May the Lord who
provides for all our needs sustain us day by
day. May the Lord whose steadfast love is for
all, send us out to live and work for others. And
may 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.