

*Welcome*

*Worship in Song*

These are the days of Elijah  
Declaring the word of the Lord  
And these are the days of your servant Moses  
Righteousness being restored  
And though these are days of great trial,  
Of famine and darkness and sword  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying  
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Behold he comes riding on the clouds  
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call  
Lift your voice in the year of jubilee  
Out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel,  
The dry bones becoming as flesh  
And these are the days of your servant David  
Rebuilding a temple of praise  
These are the days of the harvest,  
The fields are as white in the world  
And we are the labourers in your vineyard  
Declaring the word of the Lord

*Worship in Song*

There is a higher throne  
Than all this world has known,  
Where faithful ones from every tongue  
Will one day come.  
Before the Son we'll stand,  
Made faultless through the Lamb;  
Believing hearts find promised grace:  
Salvation comes.

Hear heaven's voices sing,  
Their thunderous anthem rings  
Through emerald courts and sapphire skies,  
Their praises rise. All glory, wisdom, power,  
Strength, thanks and honour are  
To God, our King who reigns on high forevermore

And there we'll find our home,  
Our life before the throne;  
We'll honour him in perfect song  
Where we belong.  
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye,  
As thirst and hunger die;  
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King:  
We'll reign with him.

*Confession*

Our great high priest, Jesus Christ, knows all our weaknesses, and can sympathize, because he was tested in every way we are, only without sinning. So let us come boldly to the throne of grace, where we can find mercy and grace to help when we need it most.

Almighty God, we confess that too often we have taken the easy way of the world, rather than your way, and so have grieved your heart of love. We have been slow to admit that we are not our own, but belong to you: In your mercy forgive us and help us. We have been unwilling to see that we are bought with the price of Christ's blood: In your mercy forgive us and help us. We have been unprepared to live out our lives as your servants: In your mercy forgive us and help us. Raise us by the power of your love, and fill us anew with the joy of your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sisters and brothers, because of Jesus death on the cross and your faith in him, your sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*Special Prayer for Today*

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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*

Genesis 18.16-33 (*Church Bible page 13*)

John 3.16-21 (*Church Bible page 888*)

## *Sermon*

### *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*

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

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

## *Worship in Song*

Though the nations rage kingdoms rise and fall  
There is still one King reigning over all  
So I will not fear for this truth remains  
That my God is the Ancient of Days

None above him none before him  
All of time in his hands  
For his throne it shall remain and ever stand  
All the power all the glory I will trust in his name  
For my God is the Ancient of days

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul  
He is here with me, I am not alone  
O His love is sure and He knows my name  
For my God is the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings  
I will watch and wait for the Saviour king  
Then my joy complete standing face to face  
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

## *Worship in Song*

Who has held the oceans in his hands  
Who has numbered every grain of sand  
Kings and nations tremble at his voice  
All creation rises to rejoice

Behold our God seated on his throne  
Come let us adore him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore him

Who has given counsel to the Lord  
Who can question any of his words  
Who can teach the One who knows all things  
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds

Who has felt the nails upon his hands  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man  
God eternal humbled to the grave  
Jesus Saviour risen now to reign

### *Bridge*

You will reign forever

### *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 D*

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*

Are you thirsty, are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Tired and broken, peace unspoken  
Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling, find refreshing  
At the cross of living waters  
Lay your life down, all the old gone  
Rise up in these living waters

There's a river that flows with mercy and love  
Bringing joy to the city of our God  
There our hope is secure, do not fear anymore  
Praise the Lord of living waters

Spirit moving, mercy washing  
Healing in these living waters  
Lead your children, to the shoreline  
Life is in these living waters

Are you thirsty, are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Love forgiveness, vast and boundless  
Christ He is our living waters

### *Worship in Song - during communion*

A thousand generations falling down in worship  
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb  
And all who've gone before us  
And all who will believe  
Will sing the song of ages to the Lamb

Your name is the highest  
Your name is the greatest  
Your name stands above them all  
All thrones and dominions  
All powers and positions  
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry, 'Holy'  
All creation cries, 'Holy'  
You are lifted high, holy, holy forever

If you've been forgiven and if you've been redeemed  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
If you walk in freedom and if you bear his name  
Sing the song forever to the Lamb  
We'll sing the song forever and amen

Hear your people sing, 'Holy'  
To the King of kings, 'Holy'  
You will always be holy, holy forever

### *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*

And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died he for me, who caused his pain?  
For me, who him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! How can it be  
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:  
Who can explore his strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above -  
So free, so infinite his grace -  
Emptied himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race.  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
For, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray -  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;  
Jesus, and all in him is mine!  
Alive in him, my living Head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

### *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 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.