

Welcome

Worship in Song

In the darkness there's a light before me
And it drives away my fear
In the silence there's a voice that calls me
And it tells me you are near

In the chaos there's a hand that holds me
And will never let me go
Yes I know that you are always for me
For your word has told me so

I will follow you, I will walk by faith
You have brought me near by your unrelenting grace
I will set my mind on the things above
You have won my heart with your everlasting love

I was lost but then you came and found me
And in love you brought me home
I was dead in sin but then you raised me
I am saved by grace alone

For no height no depth no life no death
No power on earth can take us from your love
No height no depth no life no death
No power on earth can take us from your love

Confession

Seeing we have a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, and make our confession to our heavenly Father.

Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you. We are not worthy to be called your children. We turn to you again. Have mercy on us, bring us back to yourself as those who once were dead but now have life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the Father forgive you by the death and resurrection of his Son and strengthen you to live in the power of the Spirit all your days. Amen.

Special Prayer for Today

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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

1 Corinthians 15.1-11 & 35-58 (*Bible page 961*)

1 Thessalonians 4.1-18 (*Bible page 987*)

Sermon

Worship in Song

There is a day that all creation's waiting for
A day of freedom and liberation for the earth
And on that day the Lord will come to meet his bride
And when we see him in an instant we'll be changed

The trumpet sounds and the dead will then be raised
By his power never to perish again
Once only flesh now clothed with immortality
Death has now been swallowed up in victory

We will meet him in the air
And then we will be like him
For we will see him as he is, Oh yeah
Then all hurt and pain will cease
And we'll be with him forever
And in his glory we will live, Oh yeah oh yeah

So lift your eyes to the things as yet unseen
That will remain now for all eternity
Though trouble's hard, it's only momentary
And it's achieving our future glory

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. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, everything has become new.

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

Worship in Song

I am alive saved by your sacrifice
Death overcome glory dispels the night
You call the lifeless to wake from death to life
Out of darkness arise

I am set free saved from the power of sin
Guilt overcome your Spirit at work within
You break the chains of the law I am released
From the burden of sin

Now we cry Father we are your children
We are adopted as your own
No condemnation we are forgiven
Nothing can take us from your love

I am redeemed raised with my Saviour Christ
Fear overcome I will be glorified
You will forever defend and stand beside
I am safe in your love

Bridge

Creation awaits the glorious day
When Jesus returns and trials will fade

Offertory Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you emptied yourself, taking the form of a servant. Through your love, make us servants of one another. Lord Jesus Christ, for our sake you became poor. May our lives and gifts enrich the life of your world. 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.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word, and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight. Though we chose the path of rebellion you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth, we echo the song of the angels in heaven, evermore 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 God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness. Amen. Lord, we believe.

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory. Amen. Lord, we believe.

On the night he gave up himself for us all he 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. Amen. Lord, we believe.

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. Amen. Lord, we believe.

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory. Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight. Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high. Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

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

You chose the cross with every breath,
The perfect life, the perfect death:
You chose the cross.

A crown of thorns you wore for us,
And crowned us with eternal life:
You chose the cross.

And though your soul was overwhelmed with pain
Obedient to death you overcame.

I'm lost in wonder, I'm lost in love,
I'm lost in praise forevermore.
Because of Jesus' unfailing love
I am forgiven, I am restored.

You loosed the cords of sinfulness
And broke the chains of my disgrace:
You chose the cross.
Up from the grave victorious, you rose again so glorious
You chose the cross
The sorrow that surrounded you was mine,
'Yet not my will but yours be done!' you cried.

Worship in Song - during communion

There is a redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy one.

Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

Jesus my redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.

When I stand in glory, I will see his face.
And there I'll serve my King for ever, In that holy place.

Prayer after Communion

God our Father, whose Son, the light unfailing,
has come from heaven to deliver the world
from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy
mysteries open the eyes of our understanding
that we may know the way of life, and walk in
it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Worship in Song

Oh to see the dawn of the darkest day
Christ on the road to Calvary
Tried by sinful men torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood

This the power of the cross, Christ became sin for us
Took the blame bore the wrath
We stand forgiven at the cross

Oh to see the pain written on Your face
Bearing the awesome weight of sin
Every bitter thought every evil deed
Crowning Your bloodstained brow

Now the daylight flees now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows his head
Curtain torn in two dead are raised to life
Finished the victory cry

Oh to see my name written in the wounds
For through your suffering I am free
Death is crushed to death life is mine to live
Won through your selfless love

This the power of the cross
Son of God slain for us
What a love what a cost
We stand forgiven at the cross

Blessing

Go now. Listen for the voice of the Lord and
follow wherever it leads. Allow no room for
deceit within yourself, but offer yourself as a
temple for the Holy Spirit. And may God be
with you and speak through you; may Christ
Jesus be one with you and raise you to life; and
may the Holy Spirit dwell within you and make
you holy. 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.