

Welcome & Introduction

Worship in Song

From the chaos of darkness
Your word shaped the earth
In your image a people made
But we traded perfection the truth for a lie
And your glory was veiled in shame
But a promise made a blessing you gave
To a people of your name
For this broken world a Saviour foretold
To bear all our grief and pain

When the heavenly Saviour descended his throne
All my sin on his shoulders laid
And to win our redemption he suffered and died
For the sake of my guilt and shame
Oh the price he paid in taking my place
So that death was overcome
When the King of love burst forth from the grave
Proclaiming the victory won

At the end of the ages the world passed away
I will gaze on my Saviour's face
When my heart is perfected and free from my sin
I will rest in your glorious grace
For the song we raise the works of our hands
Are in service of the King
When a thousand tongues cry glory to God
Forever his praise we'll sing

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

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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

2 Corinthians 6.1-10 (*Bible page 966*)
Mark 8.27-38 (*Bible page 844*)

Sermon

Worship in Song

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth,
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle-cry is love,
Reaching out to those in darkness

Our call to war, to love the captive soul
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valour.
When faced with trials on every side
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which he died,
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see his foes lie crushed beneath his feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This victory march continues till the day
Every eye and heart shall see him.

So Spirit come put strength in every stride,
Give grace for every hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of his grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When with Christ we stand in glory.

For Strength to Follow Jesus

Jesus said: 'If one of you wants to be great, he
must be the servant of the rest'
Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Jesus said: 'Unless you change and become
humble like little children, you can never enter
the Kingdom of heaven'
Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Jesus said: 'Happy are those who are humble;
they will receive what God has promised.'
Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Jesus said: 'Be merciful just as your Father is
merciful; love your enemies and do good to them.'
Master, we hear your call: help us to follow.

Jesus said: 'Love one another, just as I love you;
the greatest love a person can have for his
friends is to give his life for them'
Master we hear your call: help us to follow

Jesus said: 'Go to all peoples everywhere and
make them my disciples, and I will be with you
always, to the end of the world'
Master we hear your call: help us to follow

Lord, you have redeemed us and called us to
your service: give us grace to hear your word
and to obey your commandment; for your
mercy's sake. Amen.

Prayers

The Peace

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God
in one body by the cross. We meet in his name
and share his peace.

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

Worship in Song

I will offer up my life In spirit and truth
Pouring out the oil of love as my worship to you
In surrender I must give my every part
Lord receive the sacrifice of a broken heart

Jesus what can I give what can I bring
To so faithful a friend to so loving a King
Saviour what can be said what can be sung
As a praise of your name
For the things you have done
Oh my words could not tell not even in part
Of the debt of love that is owed
By this thankful heart

You deserve my every breath
For you've paid the great cost
Giving up your life to death even death on a cross
You took all my shame away there defeated my sin
Opened up the gates of heaven
And have beckoned me in

Offertory Prayer

Lord God, take our hearts and set them on fire
for you. Take our lives and transform them to
be like that of Jesus. Take our church and
resurrect it with your life-giving Spirit. Take our
gifts and use them for the fulfilment of your
vision of peace and unity. Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer A

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 indeed right and good to give you thanks and
praise, almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son. For in these forty days

you lead us into the desert of repentance that through a pilgrimage of prayer and discipline we may grow in grace and learn to be your people once again. Through fasting, prayer and acts of service you bring us back to your generous heart. Through study of your holy word you open our eyes to your presence in the world and free our hands to welcome others into the radiant splendour of your love. As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast with joyful hearts and minds we bless you for your mercy and join with saints and angels 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.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his 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.

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Great is the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

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

What wonder of wonders what love is this
That Christ would die for me
His goodness His merit His righteousness
This sinner's only plea
O foolish pride be crucified
The work is finished

All my boast is in Jesus
All my hope is His love
And I will glory forever
In what the cross has done

Now fully forgiven my life is filled
With graces undeserved
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill
Let praises now return
Rise up my soul and bless the Lord
Who else is worthy

Bridge

O praise the One forever blessed
Him alone my heart adores
And I will boast in nothing less
Than the love of Christ my Lord

I boast not in riches in strength or might
But in the grace of God
I glory in weakness to live is Christ
In plenty or in want
That I may know that all may see
His pow'r within me

Ending

Now I stand in His freedom
Ransomed clean in His sight
And I cannot be ashamed for
My boast is Jesus Christ
My boast is Jesus Christ
Forever my boast is Jesus Christ

Worship in Song - during communion

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I find a place to stand
And wonder at such mercy
That calls me as I am
For hands that should discard me
Hold wounds which tell me come
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
My unworthy soul is won

Beneath the cross of Jesus,
His family is my own
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams
Now one through grace alone
How could I now dishonour
The ones that you have loved
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
See the children called by God

Beneath the cross of Jesus
The path before the crown
We follow in his footsteps
Where promised hope is found
How great the joy before us
To be his perfect bride
Beneath the cross of Jesus,
We will gladly live our lives

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus
Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and
bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in
the power of your Spirit to live and work to
your praise and glory. Amen.

Worship in Song

With a prayer you fed the hungry
With a cry you stilled the storm
With a look you had compassion
On the desperate and forlorn
With a touch you healed the leper
With a shout you raised the dead
With a word expelled the demons
With a blessing broke the bread

Love incarnate love divine
Captivate this heart of mine
Till all I do speaks of you

As a sheep before the shearer
You were silent in your pain
You endured humiliation
At the hands of those you'd made
And as hell unleashed its fury
You were lifted on a tree
Crying Father God forgive them
Place their punishment on me

I will feed the poor and hungry
I will stand up for the truth
I will take my cross and follow
To the corners of the earth
And I ask that you so fill me
With your peace your power your breath
That I never love my life so much
To shrink from facing death

Blessing

The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and
love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our 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.