

Welcome

Worship in Song

Come people of the risen King
Who delight to bring him praise
Come all and tune your hearts to sing
To the morning star of grace
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to him
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in

Rejoice rejoice let every tongue rejoice
One heart one voice O Church of Christ rejoice

Come those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night
Come those who tell of battles won
And those struggling in the fight
For his perfect love will never change
And his mercies never cease
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace

Come young and old from every land
Men and women of the faith
Come those with full or empty hands
Find the riches of his grace
Over all the world his people sing
Shore to shore we hear them call
The truth that cries through every age
Our God is all in all

Confession

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the power of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of truth, we do not speak the good news of your love, nor do we live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with the desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The proof of God's amazing love is that while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, our sins are forgiven and we can approach the throne of God in confidence.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayer for Growth and Renewal

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your church, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions, joy to our worship, and power to our witness. Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings

Acts 1.1-8 (*Church Bible page 909*)

Acts 28.16-31 (*Church Bible page 937*)

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.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers

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

Notices

The Peace

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation. So let us offer the peace of God to all.

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

Worship in Song

Here we stand the church of the redeemed
Ransomed by the blood that sets us free
From the darkness brought into the light
Enemies of God now his delight
From the depths called to highest heights
Here we stand the church of the redeemed
We are his precious in his sight
Here we stand the church of the redeemed

Here we stand contending for the faith
Standing for the truth in every age
We are weak but Jesus he is strong
In the Spirit's power we labour on
And we know victory will be won
Here we stand contending for the faith
And we know truth will overcome
Here we stand the church of the redeemed

Here we stand but here we don't belong
Journeying toward our lasting home
Now we weep with weary saints who mourn
Telling all the world the hope of dawn
Christ will come all will be restored
Here we stand but here we don't belong
We will wait ready for our Lord
Here we stand the church of the redeemed

Every heart overflows with praise
When at last we stand before the throne
With our King evermore we'll reign
Here we stand the church of the redeemed

Offertory Prayer

Faithful God, receive all we offer you this day.
May we so live the life of Christ that your Church may be a sign of salvation to all the nations of the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **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

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

Come and hear the wondrous love
The mighty God who reigns above
Has entered in to dwell with us - hallelujah

On the earth our Saviour lived
The Son of Man the servant King
By his death he bore our sin - hallelujah

The fight is over the battle done
The victory of life is won
The song of triumph has begun - hallelujah

The powers of hell had seemed to win
But Christ has conquered death and sin
Let's raise our voices for our King - hallelujah

For very soon he will return
And place all things beneath his throne
And take us to our heavenly home - hallelujah

So now by faith we persevere
And in his strength we will not fear
For as we meet our God is here - hallelujah

Worship in Song - during communion

Spirit of heaven flood over me
Forming Christ in all that I do
Turn every sinful desire in me
Into holy passion for You

O Spirit of God come down
Let mercy and grace abound
My passionate prayer shall be, Christ in me

Spirit of beauty and holiness
Come refine with fire from above
Till I am cast in Your righteousness
And I love the things that You love

Breathe Your forgiveness when darkness falls
And my heart is heavy with sin
Fill me with faith for the higher cause
Of the ceaseless praise of the King

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship in Song

Come set your rule and reign, in our hearts again
Increase in us we pray, unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are your church, we need your power in us

We seek your kingdom first, we hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives, for you're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are your church, we pray revive this earth

Build your kingdom here, let the darkness fear
Show your mighty hand, heal our streets and land
Set your church on fire, win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build your kingdom here we pray

Unleash your kingdom's power reaching the
near and far
No force of hell can stop your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are your church, we are the hope on earth

Blessing

Go from here as witnesses of what you have seen and heard. Share God's love with those you meet. Bring hope to those who are in despair. Live lives of gratitude and praise. 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.