CHRIST CHURCH THORNTON

Service of Holy Communion
1 November 2026
Home for Good

Welcome

Worship in Song

Speak O Lord as we come to you
To receive the food of your holy word
Take your truth plant it deep in us
Shape and fashion us in your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
Speak O Lord and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience
Holy reverence true humility
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority
Words of power that can never fail
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak O Lord and renew our minds
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity
And by grace we'll stand on your promises
And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us
Speak O Lord till your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory

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.**

Interview

Worship in Song

My soul will sing with all the strength I have in me
I will rejoice with every day he gives
I will recall the wonders he has shown to me
His power to heal his mercy to forgive
We join with angels to sing his praises
He does not treat us as our sins deserve

High as the heavens reach above the earth
Is your unfailing love, is your unfailing love
Far as the east is banished from the west
You took our sins from us
removed our sins from us
How wide how high is your unfailing love

Our King delights to show compassion to the weak
Their deepest needs he loves to satisfy
Throughout the earth
His justice and his mercy speak
And he will run to meet the victim's cry
From everlasting to everlasting
Our youth renewed with every step we take

Though we are dust a moment in eternity
As flowers bloom today and then are gone
He crowns our lives with beauty and with dignity
His patience smiles on all who turn to him
From generation to generation
We'll tell the story of his faithfulness

Bible Readings
James 2.14-26 *(Church Bible page 1012)*
Matthew 5.1-12 *(New Testament page 809)*

Sermon

Worship in Song
You called my name, before you formed the earth
You saw my frame
Knit me together with a word
You designed my heart to know you
Breathing life into my bones
Forever you have loved me as your own

You are my Father, I am your child
Loved and accepted
Nothing could separate us now
Adopted forever, purchased with blood
You are my Father, and I am a child of God

You know my need, before I ever call
You guide my feet
Teach me to plant my steps in yours
And you comfort and protect me
With new mercies day by day
You know my weakness yet your love remains

And when I fall, and wander from your ways
Ashamed by it all
Fearing I've squandered all your grace
Then I turn and see you running
With forgiveness in your gaze
Still I'm welcome in my Father's embrace

An Affirmation of Faith
Let us declare our faith in God.
We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named. We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love. We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high. We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

The Peace
Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

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

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

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*

There is strength within the sorrow
There is beauty in our tears
And you meet us in our mourning
With a love that casts out fear

You are working in our waiting,
Sanctifying us
When beyond our understanding
You're teaching us to trust

Your plans are still to prosper
You've not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
Faithful forever perfect in love
You are sovereign over us

You are wisdom unimagined
Who could understand your ways
Reigning high above the heavens
Reaching down in endless grace

You're the lifter of the lowly
Compassionate and kind
You surround and you uphold me
And your promises are my delight

Bridge

Even what the enemy means for evil
You turn it for our good,
You turn it for our good, and for your glory
Even in the valley you are faithful
You're working for our good
You're working for our good, and for your glory

Worship in Song - *during communion*

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to him belong
Who holds our days within his hand
What comes apart from his command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah, our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah, now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is his grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ he lives Christ he lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

Worship in Song

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

Blessing

May the Father from whom every family in earth and heaven receives its name strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; 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.