



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH REDCLIFFE**  
**SERVICE ORDER FOR 9<sup>th</sup> May,**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

LORD God, loving Father:  
through Your Son You call us Your friends.  
As You call us into Your holy presence,  
lead us by the power of Your living Word  
that we might love that which You love,  
and do that which You do –  
to Your everlasting praise and glory;  
in Jesus' name. Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCE: John 15:12-13**

*This is My command.  
Love one another as I have loved you.  
No one has greater love than this:  
to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

**This is My command.  
Love one another as I have loved you.  
No one has greater love than this:  
to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

**INVOCATION**

*In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.***

**SONG: AT 284: Come in and sit down (click [here](#))**

*Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.  
We are lost but we are found, and we are a part of the family.*

**You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;  
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part of the family.**

**God is with us in this place, with His Father's warm embrace.  
We're all forgiven by God's grace, so we are a part of the family.**

*Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.  
We are lost but we are found, and we are a part of the family.*

**Children and elders, middlers and teens, singles and doubles and in-betweens,  
strong eighty-fivers and street-wise sixteens, for we are a part of the family.**

**Greeters and shoppers, long-time and the new, nobody here has a claim on a pew;  
and whether we're many or whether we're few, we are a part of the family.**

***Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.  
We are lost but we are found, and we are a part of the family.***

**There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine; we are the branches, Christ is the vine.  
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine, but we are a part of the family.**

**There's rest for the weary and health for us all; there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden  
that's small. So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family.**

***Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.  
We are lost but we are found, and we are a part of the family.***

### **CONFESSION**

*Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins,  
and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*

**Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor helpless sinner, confess to You all my sins, and  
repent of all the evil I have done. I have deeply displeased You and deserve Your  
punishment in time and in eternity. But I am sorry for my sins, and I ask You, for the sake of  
the holy innocent sufferings and death of Your dear Son Jesus Christ, to be gracious and  
merciful to me. Amen.**

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given His only Son to die for  
us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He has given the  
right to become children of God, and has given them His Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is  
baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.*

### **INTROIT: Psalm 98**

*<sup>1</sup> Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!  
For He has done marvellous things;  
His right hand and His holy arm  
have gained Him the victory.*

**Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth!**

*<sup>2</sup> The LORD has made known His salvation;  
His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations.*

*<sup>3</sup> He has remembered His mercy  
and His faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

**Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth!**

*<sup>4</sup> Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth in song, rejoice, and sing praises.*

*<sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the sound of a psalm,  
<sup>6</sup> with trumpets and the sound of a horn;  
<sup>6</sup> shout joyfully before the LORD, the King.*

**Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth!**

*<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all its fullness,  
the world and those who dwell in it;*

*<sup>8</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands;  
Let the hills be joyful together <sup>9</sup>before the LORD,  
For He is coming to judge the earth.  
With righteousness He shall judge the world,  
and the peoples with equity.*

**Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth!**

**Glory to the Father  
and the Son  
and the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now,  
and will be forever.  
Amen.**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Let us pray that we love one another.*

[silence]

Almighty and merciful God,  
you send your Holy Spirit  
to be the light and life of all your people.  
Open our hearts to receive his riches,  
so that we may produce the fruit of the Spirit  
in love and joy and peace.  
We ask this through your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **BIBLE READING**

**FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48** The Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on all those who were listening to his message. <sup>45</sup> The Jewish believers who had come from Joppa with Peter were amazed that God had poured out His gift of the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles also. <sup>46</sup> For they heard them speaking in strange tongues and praising God's greatness. Peter spoke up: <sup>47</sup> "These people have received the Holy Spirit, just as we also did. Can anyone, then, stop them from being baptised with water?" <sup>48</sup> So he ordered them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay with them for a few days.

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-8** Faith gives us victory over the world

<sup>1</sup> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born from God. Whoever loves someone who is a parent loves the child born to the parent. <sup>2</sup> This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep God's commandments. <sup>3</sup> This is the love of God: we keep God's commandments. God's commandments are not difficult, <sup>4</sup> because everyone who is born from God defeats the world. And this is the victory that has defeated the world: our faith. <sup>5</sup> Who defeats the world? Isn't it the one who believes that Jesus is God's Son? <sup>6</sup> This is the One who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. Not by water only but by water and blood. And the Spirit is the One who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup> The three are testifying—<sup>8</sup> the Spirit, the water, and the blood—and the three are united in agreement.

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **ALLELUIA VERSE**

*Alleluia!*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Jesus says:*

*I no longer call you slaves.*

*But I have called you friends,*

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: John 15:9-17** Jesus calls us His friends

*Before the reading*

**Glory be to You, O LORD.**

[Jesus said]: <sup>9</sup> Just as the Father loved Me, I also loved you. Abide in My love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love— just as I have kept the commandments of My Father and am abiding in His love. <sup>11</sup> “I have spoken these things to you in order that My joy may be in you, and your joy may be made full. <sup>12</sup> This is My commandment: that you be loving one another just as I loved you. <sup>13</sup> No one has greater love than this: that one lay-down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup> You are My friends if you are doing the things which I command you. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you slaves, because the slave does not know what his master is doing. But I have called you friends, because I made-known to you everything which I heard from My Father. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you, in order that you may go and bear fruit and your fruit may remain, in order that He may give you whatever thing you ask the Father in My name. <sup>17</sup> I am commanding these things to you so-that you will love one another.

*After the reading*

*This is the gospel of the LORD.*

**Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Lord Jesus, thank you for loving us  
and making us your friends.

Help us to obey you and to love one another.

**Amen.**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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, dead, and buried. He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

**SONG: AT 4: Father welcomes (click [here](#))**

***Father welcomes all His children to His family through His Son,  
Father giving His salvation, life for ever has been won.***

**Little children, come to Me for My kingdom is of these,  
Life and love I have to give, mercy for your sin:**

***Father welcomes all His children to His family through His Son,  
Father giving His salvation, life for ever has been won.***

**In the water, in the Word, in His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptised and believe shall be born again:  
*Father welcomes all His children to His family through His Son,  
Father giving His salvation, life for ever has been won.***

**Let us daily die to sin; let us daily rise with Him -  
walk in the love of Christ our Lord, live in the peace of God.  
*Father welcomes all His children to His family through His Son,  
Father giving His salvation, life for ever has been won.***

## **SERMON**

At this point you may wish to Listen to Sermon, or Read and Discuss the Sermon  
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))

### **SONG: LHS 277: Baptised into Your name ([click here](#))**

**Baptised into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,  
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, among the people You have called.  
With Christ I'm buried, dead to sin, and now Your Spirit lives within.**

**My loving Father, here You take me to be Your own dear child and heir;  
my faithful Saviour, here You let me the fruit of all Your sorrows share;  
come, Holy Spirit, comfort me when threatening clouds around I see.**

**My faithful God, You will protect me. Your covenant surely will abide;  
do not be angry and reject me if I should break it on my side.  
Have mercy when I come defiled; forgive, lift up, restore Your child.**

**All that I am and love most dearly, receive it all, O Lord, from me.  
Help me to make my vows sincerely and Your devoted child to be.  
Let nothing that I am or own serve any will but Yours alone.**

## **BLESSING OF MOTHERS**

Loving Father in heaven,  
we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us,  
whose love is so precious that it can never be measured in dollars and cents,  
whose time does not seem to be measured in the hours they put in per week,  
whose patience seems to have no end and can even seem to stretch past breaking point.  
May we see your loving hand behind them and guiding them.  
We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love, or time, or patience,  
and ask you to bless them with your own special love

and the gifts of more time and more patience.  
And we pray for children and fathers, that they may appreciate,  
love and support their mothers and wives.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord and brother.

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Our Lord promises that the Father will give us whatever we ask for in his name. In the power of his Spirit then, let us pray with confidence, responding to the words, "Lord, in your unfailing love", with "**hear our prayer.**"*

Heavenly Father, thank you for your unfailing love, and for Jesus' perfect obedience to your commandments in our place. Motivate us by the gospel and direct us by the law to love as Jesus commanded.

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for directing Peter to embrace the Gentile household of Cornelius with your saving gifts. Direct us to see that the gospel is for all people, no matter their race, colour or beliefs. And dissolve the boundaries we place in the way of love for others.

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for the gift of marriage, parents and children. Motivate all parents to take care of their children and direct them to do this with wisdom and skill. Especially move and direct them by the saving love of Christ to bring their children his saving love as well.

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for those who lead us in singing your new song. Direct our worship in right paths, and motivate us to gather in holy assembly with joy and family affection. Guide Australian Lutheran College, its council, staff and students so that law and gospel is properly taught in our church.

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for the affection we enjoy from others. Warm again those whose love has grown cold. And direct loving companions to those who live without love and without joy.

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for sending rain and sunshine as the earth needs it. Protect the world from disasters of every kind. And provide for all in need, including those we know personally to be in want and whom we now name silently in our hearts... (brief silence)

*Lord, in your unfailing love... **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, through the Spirit of your Son, keep us in your word and forgiving love so we serve you in faithful obedience. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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 forever. Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

*Let us bless the LORD.*

**God be praised forevermore.**

*Oh, sing to the LORD a new song!*

**For He has done marvellous things!**

*The LORD bless us and keep us.*

*The LORD make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.*

*The LORD look upon us with favour, and give us peace.*

**Amen!**

### **GROWING FAITH AT HOME BIBLE VERSE**

#### **John 15:12-13**

*This is My command.*

*Love one another as I have loved you.*

*No one has greater love than this:  
to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

**This is My command.**

**Love one another as I have loved you.**

**No one has greater love than this:  
to lay down one's life for one's friends.**

### **GROWING FAITH AT HOME BLESSING**

*May God surround you with His love,  
and fill your heart with love for others.*

**May God surround you with His love,  
and fill your heart with love for others.**



## WORDS OF SENDING

*Go now, and bear fruit for God, fruit that will last.  
As Christ has loved you, so love one another,  
and abide always in God is love,  
that your joy may be complete.*

*Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.*

## SONG: LHS 844 Sent out by God's blessing (click [here](#))

**Sent out by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from His dwelling  
take leave. The supper is ended; O now be extended the fruits of this service in all who  
believe.**

**The seed of His teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for  
all. His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer His  
call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing His children of each tribe and race.**

**With Your feast You feed us, with Your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we  
share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honour to Christ and His  
name that we bear.**

## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading: Acts 10:44-48**

#### **LHS**

- 277 Baptized into Thy name most holy\* G4  
279 He that believes and is baptized\* (*alt tune* 106, G3)  
826 Father welcomes all his children GS

#### **AT**

- 4 Father welcomes all his children

### **Second reading: 1 John 5:1-6**

#### **LHS**

- 142 We all believe in one true God\* G3  
321 Faith is a living power from heaven\* G5  
323 Blessed are the sons of God\* G4  
324 Salvation unto us has come\* G5(*vv 1,5,6 original, vv 1,4,5 revised*)  
344 Our God is love, and all His saints\* G6  
763 Now is eternal life (*alt tune* 176, G9)

**AT**

- 68 This is my commandment  
155 We believe  
177 Love one another  
257 Jesus is living, he is here now among us  
301 May the Father of love  
455 All this I believe

**Gospel: John 15:9-17****LHS**

- 62 My song is love unknown (vv 1,2,5) G5 (*alt tune* A8, G8)  
103 I know that my Redeemer lives\* G3  
165 One there is, above all others\* G8  
193 Jesus, with Thy Church abide \* G9  
334 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee\* G3  
344 Our God is love, and all His saints\* G6  
359 Thee will I love, my strength, my treasure\* G6  
361 Let us ever walk with Jesus\* G5

**AT**

- 68 This is my commandment  
177 Love one another