



Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe
Service Order For 12th September,
16th Sunday after Pentecost



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

LORD God, loving Father,
today's scripture reminds us that words matter.
Make us eager to hear Your voice
and seek Your guidance,
that following in the way of the cross,
we may know the way of life and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: Mark 8:34

*Jesus said, "If any want to become My followers,
let them deny themselves and take up their cross
and follow Me."*

***Jesus said, "If any want to become My followers,
let them deny themselves and take up their cross
and follow Me."***

INVOCATION

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

LHS 140: Holy, Holy (click [here](#))

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God almighty!
Early in the morning
to You our praise shall be;
holy, holy, holy,
merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons,
blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy,
all the saints adore You,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea,
cherubim and seraphim
falling down before You,
God everlasting
through eternity.**

**Holy, holy, holy,
though the darkness hide You,
though the sinful human eye
Your glory may not see,
You alone are holy;
there is none beside You
perfect in power,
in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God almighty!
All Your works
shall praise Your name
in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy,
merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons,
blessed Trinity!**

Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.

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: From Psalm 19

*¹ The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.*

*² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.*

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to You, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

⁷ *The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;*

⁸ *the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;*

⁹ *the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring for ever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.*

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to You, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

¹¹ *Moreover by them is Your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.*

¹² *But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.*

¹³ *Keep back Your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.*

Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to You, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

**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 for strength to follow Jesus' path of suffering.
[silence]*

Jesus, the Christ,
we thank you that you obediently suffered and died
to give us life.

Strengthen us to carry our cross
and willingly to go where you lead us.

For you live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Proverbs 1:20-33 The call of wisdom

²⁰ Out in the open wisdom calls out. She raises her voice in a public place. ²¹ On top of the city wall she cries out. Here is what she says near the gate of the city. ²² "How long will you childish people

love your childish ways? How long will you rude people enjoy making fun of God and others? How long will you foolish people hate knowledge? ²³ Pay attention to my warning! Then I will pour out my thoughts to you. I will make known to you my teachings. ²⁴ But you refuse to listen when I call out to you. No one pays attention when I reach out my hand. ²⁵ You turn away from all my advice. And you do not accept my warning. ²⁶ So I will laugh at you when you are in danger. I will make fun of you when hard times come. ²⁷ I will laugh when hard times hit you like a storm. I will laugh when danger comes your way like a windstorm. I will make fun of you when suffering and trouble come. ²⁸ "Then you will call to me. But I won't answer. You will look for me. But you won't find me. ²⁹ You hated knowledge. You didn't choose to have respect for the LORD. ³⁰ You wouldn't accept my advice. You turned your backs on my warnings. ³¹ So you will eat the fruit of the way you have lived. You will choke on the fruit of what you have planned. ³² "The wrong path that childish people take will kill them. Foolish people will be destroyed by being satisfied with the way they live. ³³ But those who listen to me will live in safety. They will be at ease and have no fear of being harmed."

After the reading

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12 Taming the tongue

¹ Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. ³ We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. ⁴ And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. ⁵ In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. ⁶ And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself. ⁷ People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. ¹⁰ And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! ¹¹ Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? ¹² Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

After the reading

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus said:

*Those who lose their life for My sake,
and for the sake of the gospel,
will save it.*

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38 Christ must suffer and die

Before the reading

Glory be to You, O LORD.

²⁷ Jesus went on with His disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way He asked His disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' ²⁸ And they answered Him, 'Some say John the Baptist; others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' ²⁹ He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered Him, 'You are the Messiah.' ³⁰ And Jesus sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about Him. ³¹ Then He began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. ³³ But turning and looking at His disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind Me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' ³⁴ He called the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become My followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow Me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for My sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their soul? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.'

After the reading

This is the gospel of the LORD.

Praise be to You, O Christ.

Lord Jesus, thank you for suffering and dying
for our sakes.

Help us to forget ourselves and follow you.

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**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))

How deep the Father's Love (click [here](#))

**How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.**

**Behold the man upon the cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
His dying death has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.**

**I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.**

Stuart Townend (1995) Thankyou Music Used under CCLI. No. 53805

SERMON

At this point you may wish to Listen to Sermon, or Read and Discuss the Sermon
The Sermon online will be different to the manuscript.
For Church YouTube Channel (click [here](#))

LHS 301: Lord, take my hand (click [here](#))

**Lord, take my hand and lead me
along life's way;
protect and guide and feed me
from day to day.
Without Your care and favour
I go astray;
so take my hand, O Saviour,
and lead the way.**

Lord, take my heart and hide it
within Your grace;
through pain and pleasure guide it
to be at peace.
Hold close Your child, dear Saviour,
and stay with me,
and help me trust whenever
I cannot see.

For when it seems You're hiding
Your saving might,
still You are safely guiding
me through the night.
So take my hand and lead me
along life's way;
protect and guide and feed me
to endless day.

Julie Hausmann 1825-1901 (1862) Tr composite, revised David Schubert (1988, 1997)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Lord has come to us and has allowed himself to be nailed to a cross for our sake. Let us pray to God our Father in the precious name of his Son, so that we may be instruments of him who sent us.

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for giving up your Son to suffer and die on the cross for us and for all people. Thank you that we are able to look on him there and see your love for us. Help us follow him as Lord and Saviour, bearing the cross of faith itself and the difficulties we experience because of faith.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for your church throughout the world. Help it understand the way you bring salvation through the cross. Help it to be patient as it struggles to remain faithful to the way of the cross. Keep its teaching pure in the face of temptations to look for glory, strength and success in visible worldly terms where you have not given it. Help it live by faith rather than by sight. And we pray for your mercy and strength to be upon our Bishop *John Henderson* and our District Bishop *Mark Vainikka* as they labour for your people in your church. By your Holy Spirit lighten the load of the cross that they bear for us.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Guide the nations of the world to live at peace with one another, and bring relief to those in refugee camps and in detention. Have mercy on those in need, those who are struggling because of domestic violence and break-down, those who are suffering from harmful behaviour and hurting relationships, those who cannot control their tongues and those who do not learn from your discipline. Heal, restore, and renew good Lord.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bless all the students and staff of our local schools. Watch over those students who are about to enter into their final term of studies and as they prepare for their exams. Thank you that we are able to access good quality education in this country and help us to help others who are less fortunate.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for the sick, those who are disabled, those in hospital, those facing death. Show them the light of the gospel, provide helpers and carers and medical resources, and heal both body and soul. Meet the needs of all those we know personally to be in want and whom we now name silently in our hearts ... (brief silence)

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Loving Father, hear our prayer and bless those who are in need. We pray 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.
The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.*

*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 BLESSING

*May God's goodness give you peace
in your heart and your mind.
May the LORD protect you with kindness.*

**May God's goodness give you peace
in your heart and your mind.
May the LORD protect you with kindness.**

WORDS OF SENDING

*Go in peace,
as you take up your cross and follow Jesus.*

In the name of Christ. Amen.

How Great is our God (click [here](#))

**The splendour of the King,
clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice,
all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light,
and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice,
and trembles at His voice.**

**How great is our God!
Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!**

**And age to age He stands,
and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End,
Beginning and the End.
The God-head, Three-in-One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb,
the Lion and the Lamb.**

**How great is our God!
Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!**

**Name above all names,
worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing:
how great is our God!**

**Name above all names,
worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing:
how great is our God!**

**How great is our God!
Sing with me: how great is our God!
And all will see how great,
how great is our God!**

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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading (a): Proverbs 1:20-33

LHS

132 Spirit of wisdom, turn our eyes (*alt tune 245, G6, alt tune 355, G3*)

859 Seek, O seek the Lord

AT

Second reading: James 3:1-12

LHS

337 God from all eternity* (*alt tune 276, G5*)

357 O God, Thou faithful God* G3

373 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak* G5

377 Take my life, and let it be* G6

378 Fill Thou my life, O Lord my God G7

845 Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands (*alt tune 109, G5*)

AT

300 Everyone should be quick to listen

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

LHS

60 Christ the life of all the living G5

336 'Come follow me', the Saviour spake* G3

339 Praise to Thee and adoration* G4

351 'Take up thy cross', the Saviour said (*alt tune 270 G3, G9*)

357 O God, Thou faithful God* G3

361 Let us ever walk with Jesus* G5

385 With all my heart I love Thee, Lord*

750 When Jesus lived among us G7

AT

261 From heaven you came (The Servant King)

401 Follow me

413 Will you come and follow me

495 Come and follow me

506 Oh, let's get up to love and serve