



Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe
Service Order For 26th December,
First Sunday After Christmas



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

LORD God, loving Father:
Your Son was born into a human family,
and He gives us Your grace to be Your children.
Fill us with Your Holy Spirit,
and grant us faith to see Your presence among us,
so that all of creation may sing true songs of praise
and walk in the way of peace;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: Luke 2:49

*"But why did you need to search?"
He asked.*

**"Didn't you know that I must be
in My Father's house?"**

INVOCATION

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

Come, your hearts and voices raising (click [here](#))

**Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
loudly sing His love amazing, worthy folk of Christendom.**

**Christ, from heaven to us descending, and in love our race befriending,
in our need His help extending, saved us from the wily foe.**

**Jacob's Star in all its splendour beams with comfort sweet and tender,
forcing Satan to surrender, breaking all the powers of hell.**

**From the bondage that oppressed us, from sin's fetters that possessed us, from the grief that
sore distressed us, we, the captives, now are free.**

**O the joy, beyond expressing, when by faith we grasp this blessing
and to You we come confessing, that Your love has set us free.**

**Gracious Child, we pray You, hear us, from Your lowly manger cheer us, gently lead us and be
near us till we join Your choir above.**

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 148

¹ Praise the LORD!

*Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise Him in the heights!*

*² Praise Him, all His angels;
praise Him, all His host!*

Praise the LORD!

*³ Praise Him, sun and moon;
praise Him, all you shining stars!*

*⁴ Praise Him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!*

Praise the LORD!

*⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps,
⁸ fire and hail, snow and frost,
stormy wind fulfilling His command!*

Praise the LORD!

*⁹ Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!*

*¹⁰ Wild animals and all cattle,
creeping things and flying birds!*

Praise the LORD!

*¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!*

*¹² Young men and women alike,
old and young together!*

Praise the LORD!

*¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for His name alone is exalted;
His glory is above earth and heaven.*

Praise the LORD!

¹⁴ *He has raised up a horn for His people,
praise for all His faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to Him.
Praise the LORD!*

Praise the LORD!

**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 may live as God's children.
[silence]*

Almighty and eternal God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure.
Make us rich in good works, in the name of your dear Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 The boy Samuel in the service of the LORD

¹⁸ But Samuel, though he was only a boy, served the LORD. He wore a linen garment like that of a priest. ¹⁹ Each year his mother made a small coat for him and brought it to him when she came with her husband for the sacrifice. ²⁰ Before they returned home, Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife and say, "May the LORD give you other children to take the place of this one she gave to the LORD." ²⁶ Meanwhile, the boy Samuel grew taller and grew in favour with the LORD and with the people.

*After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.*

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-21 Christian life in the world

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through

him. ¹⁸Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly. ²⁰Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. ²¹Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.

After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
*And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature,
and in favour with God and with people.*
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52 The boy Jesus in His Father's house

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

⁴¹Every year His [Jesus'] parents travelled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When He was 12 years old, they went up according to the custom of the festival. ⁴³After those days were over, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but His parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming He was in the traveling party, they went a day's journey. Then they began looking for Him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for Him. ⁴⁶After three days, they found Him in the temple complex sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all those who heard Him were astounded at His understanding and His answers. ⁴⁸When His parents saw Him, they were astonished, and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for You." ⁴⁹"Why were you searching for Me?" He asked them. "Didn't you know that I had to be in My Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what He said to them. ⁵¹Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and with people.

After the reading
This is the gospel of the LORD.
Praise be to You, O Christ.

Lord Jesus, thank you for growing up
obedient to your earthly parents and to your heavenly Father.
Help us to enjoy being in the Father's house.
Amen.

VIDEO
When Love was born - sung by Mark Schultz (click [here](#))

SERMON

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

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

When God is a child (click [here](#))

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

**Love is a flame that burns in our heart,
Jesus has come and will never depart.**

**When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Brian Wren (1936 –)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The word of the prophets has been fulfilled: the Lord has come to his temple. Let us pray to God who is here with us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you have made us glad through the birth of your Son and the celebration of Christmas this year. We thank you that your holy church has been honoured to share in the praise of angels in these days. Graciously accept all who enter your house over this festival, whether they come frequently or not. When people come into your church, wherever it may be, help them to see your Son Jesus: to sense his presence, to listen to and keep his teaching, to behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

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

As your Son grew in wisdom and grace before you and all people, help all the children and young people of the church to learn your word and call upon you in prayer. Protect them from the evil one, and help them make the faith they have received their own. Be with parents as they seek to pass on the faith in an unbelieving environment. Give them grace not to give up in this tiring task.

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

We give you thanks for our land and the blessings we receive from it. Bless and guide our leaders: our Prime Minister Scott Morrison and the government, and opposition leader Anthony Albanese and the opposition party. May they promote justice and goodness, both for this generation and for the future. Grant all Australian citizens a will to serve their community, a dissatisfaction with bare materialism, and a spiritual hunger that only your Son can satisfy.

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

Have mercy on the nations of the world, and all places that suffer violence, natural disasters, and daily hardship. May good people and peacemakers prosper. May evil doers repent, before they perish.

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

Lord, you know our needs – we now commit to you those among us who are sick, dying or distressed. Let the light of Christmas shine into their hearts, and may they accept your fatherly will with peace and joy. Comfort those who mourn the passing of loved ones.

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

God our Father, we give you thanks for all you have done for us. Hear our prayers, in the name of 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.
Praise the LORD from the earth.
Praise the LORD!
His glory is above earth and heaven.
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 favour rest on you.
May you grow wise and strong as His child.
May God's favour rest on you.
May you grow wise and strong as His child.

WORDS OF SENDING

May the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.
Go in peace.
In the name of Christ.
Amen.

LHS 458: Praise the LORD! (click [here](#))

**Praise the LORD! you heavens, adore Him;
praise Him, angels, in the height; sun and moon, rejoice before Him,
praise Him, all you stars and light. Praise the LORD! for He has spoken,
worlds His mighty voice obeyed; laws, that never shall be broken,
for their guidance He has made.**

**Praise the LORD! for He is glorious; never shall His promise fail;
God has made His saints victorious, sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation; hosts on high, His power proclaim;
heaven and earth and all creation, praise and glorify His name.**

'Foundling Hospital Collection', 1796

HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26

LHS

587 O happy home, where Thou art loved the dearest G7

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Second reading: Colossians 3:12-17

LHS

29 Come, your hearts and voices raising* G4

119 Come down, O Love divine G9

434 Let all the world in every corner sing G7

777 Father in heaven GS

797 Blest be the tie that binds GS

803 Peace with the Father G7

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67 Let your word fill my days

115 Father in heaven

174 Bind us together

258 Jesus put this song into our hearts

390 Put on love

400 Deep peace

439 Forgiven

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

LHS

39 O Christ, Thou Lord eternal* G7

588 O blest the house, whate'er befall* G6

750 When Jesus came among us (v 1) G7

788 Lord, who left the highest heaven (vv 1,2,3) G7

893 Our Father, by whose name G6

AT

208 In the presence of your people