



Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe
Service Order For 30th January,
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

LORD God, loving Father,
You knew us and chose us
before You formed us in the womb.
Fill us with You Spirit that we may have
faith that speaks Your word,
hope that does not disappoint,
and love that bears all things for Your sake;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: 1 Peter 2:9

*But you are a chosen people,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's special possession,*

**that we may declare the praises
of Him who called us out of darkness
into His wonderful light.**

INVOCATION

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

LHS 501: God Himself is present (click [here](#))

**God Himself is present; let us now adore Him
and with awe appear before Him. God is in His temple,
let us all keep silence, worshipping with deepest reverence.
We will name Him alone as our God and Saviour;
praise His name forever.**

**God Himself is present; hear the music sounding,
see the hosts the throne surrounding. 'Holy, holy, holy',
hear the hymn ascending, saints' and angels' voices blending.
Lord, come near to us here, hear the prayers and praises
that Your church now raises.**

**God, from heavenly glory, visiting the lowly,
live with us and make us holy. Like the holy angels
worshipping before You, may we ceaselessly adore You.
As we live, always give hearts that want to please You
as we daily serve You.**

Gerhard Tersteegen (1697-1769) Tr composite

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 71:1-6

¹ *In You, LORD, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.*

² *In Your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;
turn Your ear to me and save me.
In You, LORD, I have taken refuge.*

³ *Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for You are my rock and my fortress.*

⁴ *Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.
In You, LORD, I have taken refuge.*

⁵ *For You have been my hope, Sovereign LORD,
my confidence since my youth.*

⁶ *From my birth I have relied on You;
You brought me forth from my mother's womb.
I will ever praise You.*

In You, LORD, I have taken refuge.

**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 power
to say and do what is right.*

[silence]

In all our doubts, dangers, and confusion,
teach us, Lord, what we ought to say and do.

Give to us,
who can do nothing good without you,
the power to speak the truth and do your will.

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: Jeremiah 1:4-10 God appoints Jeremiah as a prophet to the nations

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.” ⁶ Then I said, “Alas, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, because I am a youth.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am a youth,’ because everywhere I send you, you shall go, and all that I command you, you shall speak. ⁸ “Do not be afraid of their faces, for I am with you to deliver you,” declares the LORD. ⁹ Then the LORD stretched out His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. ¹⁰ “See, I have appointed you this day over the nations and over the kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

*After the reading
This is the Word of the LORD.*

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 The way of love

¹ If I speak human or angelic languages but do not have love, I am a sounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so that I can move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I donate all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body in order to boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not conceited, ⁵ does not act improperly, is not selfish, is not provoked, and does not keep a record of wrongs. ⁶ Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never fails. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for languages, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. ¹⁰ But when the perfect comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put

aside childish things. ¹² For now we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I will know fully, as I am fully known. ¹³ Now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love.

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

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All were speaking well of Jesus
and marvelling at the gracious words
coming out of His mouth.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30 Jesus' prophetic words in His home town

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

²¹ Then He [Jesus] began to tell them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your ears." ²² All were speaking well of Him and marvelling at the gracious words coming out of His mouth. And they were saying, "Isn't this the son of Joseph?" ²³ But He said to them, "Doubtless you will say to Me this proverb, 'Doctor, heal yourself!' and 'What we have heard was done at Capernaum, do as much here also in your hometown.'" ²⁴ But He said, "Truly, I tell you, 'No prophet is accepted in his own hometown.' ²⁵ But with all truthfulness I say to you, that there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when heaven was closed for three and a half years and there came a great famine over all the land. ²⁶ Elijah was not sent to any of them, but only to Zarephath in the land of Sidon, to a widowed woman. ²⁷ There were many with leprosy in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them were purified apart from Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ Now all in the synagogue were filled with rage upon hearing these things. ²⁹ Rising up, they drove Him out of the town and brought Him as far as the edge of the mountain on which their city had been built, in order to throw Him off the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through the middle of them, He went on His way.

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

Lord Jesus,
thank you for teaching with God's authority.
Lead us to accept your message of God's love.
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**

My worth is not in what I own (click [here](#))

**My worth is not in what I own, not in the strength of flesh and bone,
but in the costly wounds of love at the cross.**

**My worth is not in skill or name, in win or lose, in pride or shame,
but in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross.**

**I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest Treasure,
wellspring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.**

**As summer flowers we fade and die, fame, youth and beauty hurry by:
but life eternal calls to us at the cross.**

**I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light.
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross.**

**I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest Treasure,
wellspring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.**

**Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness;
my value fixed – my ransom paid at the cross.**

**I rejoice in my Redeemer, greatest Treasure,
wellspring of my soul. I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.**

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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](#))

LH 467: For the beauty of the earth (click [here](#))

**For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For Your Church that evermore lifts up holy hands above,
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love:
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

**For Yourself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given,
for that great, great love of Yours, peace on earth and joy in heaven:
*Christ, our God, to You we raise this our sacrifice of praise.***

Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord God, our heavenly Father, we give you thanks with all our heart for your holy gospel which you have given us, and through which we have come to know your Fatherly heart. For the sake of your boundless mercy, graciously preserve the blessed light of your word for us. Lead and guide our hearts that we never depart from your word, but always walk in its light and so finally be saved.

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

Remember, O Lord, your church. Deliver her from all evil and perfect her in your love. Strengthen and protect her by your Word and sacraments. Grow your church, so that your gospel may be preached to all nations, and gather the faithful from throughout the world into the kingdom which you have prepared.

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

Almighty God, you blessed the earth to make it fruitful, bringing forth in abundance whatever is needed for the support of our lives. We pray that you would graciously provide us with favourable weather in the year ahead, so that we may gather in the fruits of the earth and proclaim your goodness with thanksgiving.

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

Lord, eternal ruler of all, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Help us provide trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare of our people, and thus serve you faithfully in our generation to the honour of your holy name.

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

Almighty God, as you brought the Apostle Peter out of prison, have mercy on all who are unjustly imprisoned, and set them free from their bonds, so that they may rejoice in your deliverance. Grant to all prisoners a fair and honest trial, and grant that the prison system of our land works for restoration and rehabilitation.

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

Merciful God, since you minister to all who are afflicted, look with compassion on those who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy, remove the fears that attack them, strengthen them in the recovery of their self-possession and health, and give skill, patience, and understanding love to those who provide care for them.

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

Lord, you formed us in the womb, and before we were born you predestined us to be your own. Keep us in your love, and strengthen our faith and our hope. 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.

In You, LORD, I have taken refuge;

I will ever praise You.

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

*You are God's special possession,
live in His light.*

**You are God's special possession,
live in His light.**

WORDS OF SENDING

*You are always surrounded
by the presence of our steadfast, loving God.
Go in peace to love and serve the LORD.*

In the name of Christ. Amen.

LHS 881: How Great Thou art (click [here](#))

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I feel the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:**

***Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!***

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:**

***Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!***

**But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin:**

***Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!***

**When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim: 'My God, how great Thou art!'**

***Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee:
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!***

C.Boberg 1859 - 1940

HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

LHS

- 227 O Spirit of the living God
- 269 Speak forth Thy word, O Father
- 373 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak

AT

- 103 Send your servant down the road
- 296 I, the Lord of sea and sky
- 305 Thuma mina

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

LHS

- 118 O Holy Ghost, to Thee we all pray
- 119 Come down, O Love divine
- 151 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
- 295 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee
- 344 Our God is love, and all His saints
- 354 Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost
- 356 Lord of glory, who hast bought us
- 385 With all my heart I love Thee, Lord
- 584 O perfect love, all human thought transcending (*marriage*)
- 800 May we be one
- 802 One family, we're together
- 900 O Lord, now let your servant

AT

- 62 One family
- 80 Love is patient and kind
- 172 May we be one
- 181 Faith, hope and love (Prewer/Simpson)
- 373 Bound by love
- 376 Faith, hope, and love (Watts)
- 491 You call me to love

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

LHS

- 4 Once He came in blessing

AT

- 125 Man more than man