



**Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe**  
**Service Order for 15<sup>th</sup> May**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

LORD God, loving Father:  
Your Good News goes out to all people.  
Fill us with Your Spirit of love,  
and grant us joy in being members of Your family,  
and enable us to live Your love;  
in Jesus name. Amen.

**OPENING SENTENCE: John 13:34-35**

*A new commandment I give to you,  
that you love one another.  
Just as I have loved you, you also love one another.*

**By this everyone will know that  
you are My disciples,  
if you have love for one another.**

**INVOCATION**

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

**LHS 219: Jesus shall reign (click [here](#))**

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does His successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.  
For Him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown His head.  
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.  
People and realms of every tongue dwell on His love with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on His name.  
Blessings abound where'er He reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring the highest honours to our King,  
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud 'Amen'.**

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), 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: Psalm 148**

*<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!*

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

*<sup>2</sup> Praise Him, all His angels;  
praise Him, all His host!*

**Praise the LORD!**

*<sup>3</sup> Praise Him, sun and moon;  
praise Him, all you shining stars!*

*<sup>4</sup> Praise Him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!*

**Praise the LORD!**

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

**Praise the LORD!**

*<sup>9</sup> Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
<sup>10</sup> Wild animals and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds!*

**Praise the LORD!**

*<sup>11</sup> Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!*

*<sup>12</sup> Young men and women alike,  
old and young together!*

**Praise the LORD!**

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

**Praise the LORD!**

*<sup>14</sup> He has exalted the dominion of His people,  
the praise of all His saints—  
of the children of Israel, a people near 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 remain in Christ.*

[silence]

Loving heavenly Father,  
you sent your Son Jesus Christ  
to reconcile the world to yourself.

Strengthen our faith,  
so that we remain united with him  
and bear the fruit of love.

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 11:1-18** Peter explains how God's salvation is also for Gentiles

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the Word of God. <sup>2</sup> But when Peter went up to Jerusalem, those who emphasised circumcision disagreed with him. <sup>3</sup> They said, "You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them!" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain to them point by point what had happened. He said, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the town of Joppa praying when in a trance I saw a vision: Something like a large linen sheet descended down from heaven, lowered by its four corners, and it came right down to me. <sup>6</sup> When I examined it closely, I saw four-footed animals of the earth, wild animals, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice telling me, 'Get up, Peter! Kill something and eat it.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'Absolutely not, Lord, for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth!' <sup>9</sup> Then the voice from heaven answered a second time, 'You must stop calling common what God has made clean!' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times. Then everything was pulled back up to heaven. <sup>11</sup> "At that very moment three men arrived at the house where we were staying. They had been sent to me from Caesarea. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them without hesitating. These six brothers went with me, too, and we entered the house of the man from Caesarea. <sup>13</sup> Then he told us how he had seen an angel standing in his home and saying, 'Send messengers to Joppa and summon Simon, who is called Peter. <sup>14</sup> He will discuss with you how you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> "When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as He was first given to us. <sup>16</sup> Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> Now if God gave them the same gift that He gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus, the Messiah, who was I to try to stop God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they calmed down, and praised God by saying, "So God has given repentance that leads to life even to gentiles."

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6** God will wipe away all tears

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and He will dwell with them. They will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. <sup>4</sup> "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' <sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Then He said, 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.' <sup>6</sup> He said to me: 'It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.'

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA VERSE**

*Alleluia!*

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*He who was seated on the throne said,  
'I am making everything new!'*

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: John 13:31-35** The new commandment: love one another

*Before the reading*

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

<sup>31</sup> So, when he [Judas] had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and glorify Him immediately. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' so now I say to you. <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

*After the reading*

*This is the gospel of the LORD.*

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

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for loving us.

Lead us to love one another,

so that everyone will know that we are your disciples.

**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**

**LHS 853: A new commandment (click [here](#))**

**A new commandment I give unto you,  
that you love one another, as I have loved you,  
that you love one another, as I have loved you;  
by this shall all mankind know you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.  
By this shall all mankind know you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.**

**A new commandment I give unto you,  
that you love one another, as I have loved you,  
that you love one another, as I have loved you;  
by this shall all mankind know you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.  
By this shall all mankind know you are My disciples,  
if you have love one for another.**

Based on John 13:34 Author unknown

**SERMON**

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

**Grace – CityAlight (click [here](#))**

**Your grace that leads this sinner home from death to life forever,  
and sings the song of righteousness by blood and not by merit.**

**Your grace that reaches far and wide to every tribe and nation,  
has called my heart to enter in the joy of Your salvation.**

**By grace, I am redeemed, by grace, I am restored.  
And now I freely walk into the arms of Christ my Lord.**

**Your grace that I cannot explain not by my earthly wisdom:  
The Prince of Life, without a stain was traded for this sinner.**

**By grace, I am redeemed, by grace, I am restored.  
And now I freely walk into the arms of Christ my Lord.**

**Let praise rise up and overflow, my song resound forever.  
For grace will see me welcomed home to walk beside my Saviour.**

**By grace, I am redeemed, by grace, I am restored.  
And now I freely walk into the arms of Christ my Lord.**

**By grace, I am redeemed, by grace, I am restored.  
And now I freely walk into the arms of Christ my Lord.**

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### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*God's glory is revealed through our crucified and risen Lord Jesus who will one day come to make all things new. So let us offer our sacrifice of prayer in his name as we pray for the church and for the world, responding to the words 'God of power and might' with 'come and make all things new'.*

Dear Father, thank you for making your love for the world known through the sacrifice of our Lord on the cross, and by his glorious resurrection from the dead. Give your people the will and strength to love each other as Christ has loved us, burying sin by mercy and forgiveness, and bringing to life righteousness and peace by faith and hope. Move our congregation to express such love in our life together.

*God of power and might:      **come and make all things new.***

Guide the church throughout the world in all truth and in loving service. Give courage and firm faith to those who are persecuted or suffer violence because they follow Christ. And dear Father, make your love known to others through the love and life of your people.

*God of power and might:      **come and make all things new.***

Have mercy on the world and purify what is sinful and unclean. Forgive those who've sinned sexually, financially or by abuse of power, and direct them into right paths. Help all married couples to live in marriage as you intended it and grant your healing and renewal to relationships that are in trouble.

*God of power and might:      **come and make all things new.***

Bring reconciliation and harmony between all races, cultures and nations. Stop all crime and bring to justice those who've done wrong. Guide all in power to serve our country well, and bring all it people to honour and respect those you have placed over us. Prosper all rightful work, eradicate hunger and disease, and let the earth be kind to us in her provision of sun and rain.

*God of power and might:      **come and make all things new.***

Lord, you share our tears and wipe them away. Let all who need comfort and healing receive them from you. Give strong faith and patient hope to all who are not well. Support them in their need and give strength to those who help them.

*God of power and might:*      **come and make all things new.**

Father in heaven, as you raised Jesus Christ to be the firstfruits of the resurrection, raise up all the world to be a new creation in him, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all glory and honour, now and for 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 forever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

*Let us bless the LORD.*

**God be praised forevermore.**

*Praise the LORD from the earth,  
for His name alone is exalted.*

**Praise the LORD!**

*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 love flow through you to others.*

**May God's love flow through you to others.**



## WORDS OF SENDING

*By this everyone will know that  
you are Jesus' disciples,  
if we have love for one another.*

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

### LHS 773: Filled with the Spirit's power (click [here](#))

**Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord  
the infant church confessed its risen Lord:  
O Holy Spirit, in the church today  
no less Your power of fellowship display.**

**Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,  
that unity may be our great desire:  
give joy and peace; give faith to hear our call,  
and readiness in each to work for all.**

**Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace  
in Your strong care all people of each race:  
like wind and fire with life among us move  
till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove.**

John Raphael Peacey 1896-1971, alt. Used under CCLI Lic. No. 53805

## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading: Acts 11:1-18**

#### **LHS**

- 769 With high delight let us unite G7  
773 Filled with the Spirit's power G7

#### **AT**

- 421 Born forever

### **Second reading: Revelation 21:1-6**

#### **LHS**

- 164 Love divine, all loves excelling G3  
168 O blessed Sun, whose splendour G4  
248 Christ is made the sure foundation  
464 Songs of praise the angels sang G6  
489 Rejoice, rejoice, believers\* G4  
494 Jerusalem the golden G6

**AT**

- 181 Faith, hope and love
- 212 Hush now
- 215 My hiding place
- 254 I give you my joys and my sorrows
- 302 Soon and very soon
- 453 The world is waiting (vv 4-6)
- 479 For living, for dying

**Gospel: John 13:31-35****LHS**

- 118 O Holy Ghost, to Thee we all pray\* G3
- 295 O Lord we praise Thee, bless Thee and adore Thee\* G3
- 344 Our God is love, and all His saints\* G6
- 381 O God our Father, throned on high (*alt tune* 391, G9)
- 853 A new commandment GS

**AT**

- 65 A new commandment
- 177 Love one another
- 310 Yesu, Yesu