

Grace Lutheran Church Redcliffe Service Order for 7th August Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

LORD God, loving Father; You say that faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Fill us with Your Spirit, that as we hear Your Word, and receive the Sacrament, we may truly see Your great love for us, and all people; in Jesus' name. Amen.

OPENING SENTENCE: Luke 12:24

Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

INVOCATION

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

Behold our God (click here)

Who has held the oceans in His hands? Who has numbered every grain of sand? Kings and nations tremble at His voice: All creation rises to rejoice.

Behold our God seated on His throne; come let us adore Him! Behold our King – nothing can compare; come let us adore Him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord? Who can question any of His Words? Who can teach the One who knows all things? Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

> Behold our God seated on His throne; come let us adore Him! Behold our King – nothing can compare; come let us adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands, bearing all the guilt of sinful man? God eternal, humbled to the grave; Jesus, Saviour risen now to reign!

Behold our God seated on His throne; come let us adore Him! Behold our King – nothing can compare; come let us adore Him!

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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.**

PSALM: Psalm 50:1-5

 ¹ The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to where it sets.
 ² From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth. Our God comes and will not be silent.

 ³ Our God comes and will not be silent; a fire devours before Him, and around Him a tempest rages.
 ⁴ He summons the heavens above, and the earth, that He may judge His people: Our God comes and will not be silent.

⁵ 'Gather to me this consecrated people, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice.'
⁶ And the heavens proclaim His righteousness, for He is a God of justice.
Our God comes and will not be silent. Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

<u>KYRIE</u>

In peace, let us pray to the LORD. LORD, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the LORD. LORD, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the wellbeing of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the LORD. LORD, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the LORD. LORD, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious LORD. Amen.

SONG OF ADORATION (click here)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray that we live by faith. [silence]

God, our protector and guide, as we travel on through life, teach us to trust in your loving direction, knowing that you will bring us safely home to you. 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: Isaiah 1:1,10-20 God tells His people: Become clean

¹The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah! ¹¹ "What are all your sacrifices to Me?" asks the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings and rams and the fat of well-fed cattle; I have no desire for the blood of bulls, lambs, or male goats. ¹² When you come to appear before Me, who requires this from you— this trampling of My courts? ¹³ Stop bringing useless offerings. Your incense is detestable to Me. New Moons and Sabbaths, and the calling of solemn

assemblies— I cannot stand iniquity with a festival. ¹⁴I hate your New Moons and prescribed festivals. They have become a burden to Me; I am tired of putting up with them. ¹⁵ When you lift up your hands in prayer, I will refuse to look at you; even if you offer countless prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are covered with blood. ¹⁶ "Wash yourselves. Cleanse yourselves. Remove your evil deeds from My sight. Stop doing evil. ¹⁷ Learn to do what is good. Seek justice. Aid the oppressed. Defend the rights of the fatherless. Plead the widow's cause. ¹⁸ "Come, let us discuss this," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool. ¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land. ²⁰ But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16 Living by faith in God's promise

¹Faith is being sure about what we hope for, being convinced about things we do not see. ² For by this faith the ancients were commended in Scripture. ³ By faith we know that the universe was created by God's word, so that what is seen did not come from visible things. ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance, and he left without knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he lived as a stranger in the Promised Land, as if it did not belong to him, dwelling in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith Abraham also received the ability to conceive children, even though Sarah herself was barren and he was past the normal age, because he considered him faithful who made the promise. ¹² And so from one man, and he as good as dead, descendants were born as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand along the seashore. ¹³ One by one, all of these died in faith, without having received the things that were promised, but they saw and welcomed them from a distance. They confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. ¹⁴ Indeed, people who say things like that make it clear that they are looking for a land of their own. ¹⁵ And if they were remembering the land they had come from, they would have had an opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better land—a heavenly one. For that reason, God is not ashamed to be called their God, because He prepared a city for them.

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

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus said: 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.'

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40 Be ready for Christ's return

Before the reading Glory be to You, O LORD.

³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, because your Father is well pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give charitable gifts. Make for yourselves money bags that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven where thief does not approach or moth destroy. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. ³⁵ "You must be prepared for action and your lamps burning. ³⁶ And you, be like people who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that when he comes back and knocks, they can open the door for him immediately. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he returns! Truly I say to you that he will dress himself for service and have them recline at the table and will come by and serve them. ³⁸ Even if he should come back in the second or in the third watch of the night and find them like this, blessed are they! ³⁹ But understand this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not think He will come."

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

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for promising us the kingdom of God. Help us to be ready and waiting for your return.

Amen.

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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 195: A mighty fortress is our God (click here)

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon, our faithful helper in all need, our stay, whate'er may happen. The old evil foe now means deadly woe; deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight; on earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our fall effected; but for us fights the valiant one whom God Himself elected. Ask ye: Who is this? Christ Jesus it is, of Sabaoth Lord, and there's none other God; He holds the field for ever.

Though devils all the world should fill, all eager to devour us, we tremble not, we fear no ill, they shall not overpower us. This world's prince may still scowl fierce as he will, he can harm us none; he's judged, for e'er undone; one little word can fell him.

Despite all foes, the Word shall stand against all their endeavour; God's gifts and Spirit, close at hand, shall be with us forever. Though they cause distress, take all we possess, though they hurt and kill, we are victorious still; the kingdom's ours forever.

Martin Luther (1483-1546) Tr. 'Church Book', Philadelphia, 1868, alt.

SERMON

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

With simple faith and childlike trust (click here)

With simple faith and childlike trust, O see the Father's love displayed – 'tis written there upon the cross where payment for our sin was made.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, turn to Jesus now. He will save you, He will save you; with simple faith and childlike trust.

O listen, hear the Saviour call, He welcomes now the least of these. His mercies are a fountain full, O precious sinner, come and drink.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, turn to Jesus now. He will save you, He will save you; with simple faith and childlike trust.

O feel the Spirit's gentle work who breaks with love the fortress heart, then speaks to it the sweetest word. O stand forgiven, child of God.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, turn to Jesus now. He will save you, He will save you; with simple faith and childlike trust.

Only trust Him, only trust Him, turn to Jesus now. He will save you, He will save you; with simple faith, with love and grace, with simple faith and childlike trust.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Since faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the certainty of things not seen, let us exercise our faith by coming to God our Father and praying for the church, the world and our neighbours.

Heavenly Father: thank you for being faithful to all your promises, especially the promise of a Saviour through Abraham and his descendants. Thank you for bringing the gospel to us, for giving us faith in Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit, and for the rich blessings we continually receive from him.

LORD, keep us strong in faith; hear our prayer.

Lord, increase the faith of all your people and cast out all fear from among us. Renew us day by day by opening our ears to your saving action in the past and your wonderful promises for the future. Enable us to live out our faith boldly and with confidence, especially when faced with uncertainty and trouble.

LORD, keep us strong in faith; hear our prayer.

We pray for your church, dear Lord, that it may never act out of fear, but always in faith and hope and love. Help us here at *(insert name of congregation)* to be living witnesses of the hope we have in Christ.

LORD, keep us strong in faith; hear our prayer.

Have mercy on those who put their faith and hope in the things of this world, dear Father. Teach them about the treasures of your kingdom, and bring them to put their hope in you. And we pray for the present-day descendants of Abraham, the Jews, that they may believe in the fulfillment of your promises in Christ.

LORD, keep us strong in faith; hear our prayer.

Thank you for the peace and prosperity we enjoy here in Australia. Bring peace where ever there is conflict, and bring prosperity to all who suffer poverty and need. Bless the work of welfare agencies and make us generous in giving to those in need. *LORD, keep us strong in faith;* hear our prayer.

Support all parents in their special vocation. Comfort and have mercy on those who, despite wanting children, have not been blessed with them yet. Protect the unborn, and bring their parents to love and nurture them to healthy birth and life. *LORD, keep us strong in faith;* hear our prayer.

Have mercy Lord on all who are afraid or anxious, and on those who need extra patience because of sickness or hardship. Comfort those who are facing loss, and support and strengthen those known to us personally with special needs, and whom we now name silently in our hearts ... (brief silence) LORD, keep us strong in faith; hear our prayer.

Almighty and most merciful God, give us the faith to live without fear, in your service, and so to be ready for the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he 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.

BLESSING

Let us bless the LORD. **God be praised forevermore.**

The Mighty One, God, the LORD, speaks and summons the earth; From Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth.

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 you be ready to receive God's treasure.

May you be ready to receive God's treasure.

WORDS OF SENDING

Go in peace, and live by faith. In the name of Christ. Amen.

How Great is our God with How great Thou art (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!

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

> 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!

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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading (a): Isaiah 1:1,10-20

LHS

- 315 Lord, to Thee I make confession* G6
- 317 Jesus sinners doth receive* G5
- 335 Just as I am, without one plea G9
- 850 O Father, my Father GS

AT

- 6 O Father, my Father
- 345 Nothing but the blood

Second reading: Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

LHS

- 251 Only begotten, Word of God eternal* G6
- 321 Faith is a living power from heaven* G5
- 323 Blessed are the sons of God* G4
- 341 Jesus, lead Thou on* G3
- 353 Holy father, Thou hast taught me* G5
- 480 A pilgrim and a stranger* G6

- AT
- 234 Hebrews 11:1
- 289 Thank you that you hear me (esp v 3)
- 336 Faith is

TIS

- 114 Blessed be the everlasting God
- 462 Now we come, our heavenly Father
- 565 Author of faith, eternal word

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

LHS

- 1 Hark, a herald voice is calling G7
- 149 Jesus, priceless treasure* G3
- 200 Thou little flock, be not dismayed
- 487 Wake, awake, for night is flying (esp v 1) * G6
- 525 Awake, my soul, and with the sun G9
- 856 Give me oil in my lamp GS
- 867 Have no fear, little flock G6

AT

- 85 Give me oil in my lamp
- 281 Nothing can separate us
- 440 Heaven's like a treasure