



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH REDCLIFFE
SERVICE ORDER FOR 18TH SEPTEMBER
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Lord, help your people
to avoid all contamination of the devil,
and to follow you, the only Lord,
with pure hearts and minds.**

**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.

OPENING SENTENCE: LUKE 16:13

*You cannot be the slave of two masters.
You will like one more than the other
or be more loyal to one than the other.
You cannot serve God and money.*

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You will like one more than the other
or be more loyal to one than the other.
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INVOCATION

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

LHS 141 - FATHER OF HEAVEN, WHOSE LOVE PROFOUND

**Father of heaven, whose love profound A ransom for our souls hath found,
Before thy throne we sinners bend: To us thy pardoning love extend.**

**Almighty Son, incarnate word, Our prophet, priest, redeemer, Lord,
Before thy throne we sinners bend: To us thy saving grace extend**

**Eternal Spirit, by whose breath The soul is raised from sin and death
Before thy throne we sinners bend: To us thy quickening power extend.**

**Thrice Holy! Father, Spirit, Son, Mysterious godhead, Three in One.
Before thy Throne we sinners bend: Grace, Pardon, life to us extend.**

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 79: 1-9

¹ *O God, the nations have invaded your inheritance;
they have defiled your holy temple, they have reduced Jerusalem to rubble.*

² *They have left the dead bodies of your servants as food for the birds of the sky,
the flesh of your own people for the animals of the wild.*

³ *They have poured out blood like water all around Jerusalem,
and there is no one to bury the dead.*

⁴ *We are objects of contempt to our neighbours
of scorn and derision to those around us.*

How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?

⁵ *How long, LORD? Will you be angry for ever?
How long will your jealousy burn like fire?*

⁶ *Pour out your wrath on the nations
that do not acknowledge you, on the kingdoms that do not call on your name;
⁷ for they have devoured Jacob and devastated his homeland.*

How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?

*⁸ Do not hold against us the sins of past generations;
may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need.*

*⁹ Help us, God our Saviour, for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake.*

How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?

**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 a willingness to serve others.

[silence]

*Almighty and merciful Father,
your Son Jesus Christ has taught us
that what we do for those in need we also do for him.
As he became the servant of all, help us to be a servant to others.
For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.*

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1 Jeremiah mourns for the people (NIVUK)

¹⁸You who are my Comforter^[a] in sorrow, my heart is faint within me. ¹⁹Listen to the cry of my people from a land far away: 'Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King no longer there?' 'Why have they aroused my anger with their images, with their worthless foreign idols?' ²⁰'The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we are not saved.'
²¹Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me. ²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people? ⁹^[b]Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people.

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

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 The church is to pray for all people (NIVUK)

² I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – ²for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³This is good, and pleases God our Saviour, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all people. This has now been witnessed to at the proper time. ⁷And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle – I am telling the truth, I am not lying – and a true and faithful teacher of the Gentiles.

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

ALLELUIA VERSE

Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13 The parable of the shrewd manager (NIVUK)

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

¹⁶Jesus told his disciples: ‘There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ²So he called him in and asked him, “What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.” ³‘The manager said to himself, “What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I’m not strong enough to dig, and I’m ashamed to beg – ⁴I know what I’ll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.” ⁵‘So he called in each one of his master’s debtors. He asked the first, “How much do you owe my master?” ⁶““Three thousand litres of olive oil,” he replied. ‘The manager told him, “Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifteen hundred.” ⁷‘Then he asked the second, “And how much do you owe?” ““Thirty tons of wheat,” he replied. ‘He told him, “Take your bill and make it twenty-four.” ⁸‘The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹I tell you, use

worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. ¹⁰ 'Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? ¹³ 'No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money.'

After the reading

This is the gospel of the LORD.

Praise be to You, O Christ.

*Lord Jesus, thank you
for all the good things you have given us.*

*Lead us to use our gifts wisely
in serving you and helping others.*

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 377 - Take My Life, and Let it Be

**Take my life, and let it be, Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be, swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my king.
take my lips, and let them be, Filled with the message from thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold; not a mite I would withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it thine: It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.**

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL, 1836-79, ALT.

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](#))

AT 25 - COMFORT, COMFORT

**Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word.
Speak it tender to my people: all your sins are taken away.**

**Though your tears be rivers running; though your tears be an ocean full;
though you cry with the hurt of living: comfort, comfort.
Every valley shall be lifted; every mountain shall be low;
every rough place will be smoother: comfort, comfort.**

**Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word.
Speak it tender to my people: all your sins are taken away.**

**Though your eyes see only darkness; though your eyes can see no light;
though your eyes see pain and sorrow: comfort, comfort.
Every night will have its morning; every pain will have an end;
every burden will be lightened: comfort, comfort.**

**Comfort, comfort all my people with the comfort of my Word.
Speak it tender to my people: all your sins are taken away.**

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OFFERING PRAYER

*Lord God,
help us not to hoard our wealth and possessions,
but gladly serve you, our only Master,
by giving of ourselves and what we have.
Amen.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

St Paul urges us to offer prayers, supplications, intercessions and thanksgiving for everyone, from the highest to the lowest. So let us come to God, who desires everyone to be saved, and pray to him in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for having mercy on us by bringing us to baptism so that we are saved through the blood of Jesus. Keep us close to you in the church so that we don't squander this wonderful gift but rather grow to enjoy its benefits more and more every day.

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

We pray for the leaders of nations - for our King and all our parliaments, for our Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk, and for the leaders of countries overseas. Bring them together to curb all evil, and give them sound judgment so they exercise their authority for the good of all. Hear the cries of your people, O God, and enrich us with your wisdom.

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

We pray for all for parents. Help them use their authority to bring up their children well, and especially to fear, love and trust in you. Cast out all the false gods we make for ourselves and for our children, including the love of money. Hear the cries of your people, O God, and enrich us with true faith in you.

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

We pray for the leaders of the church throughout the world, and for our Bishop Paul Smith, and District Bishop Mark Vainikka. Sanctify the intentions and actions of all councils and committees, and grow your rule of grace and forgiveness to all nations. Hear the cries of your people, O God, and enrich us with your holiness.

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

And finally we pray, Lord, for all who suffer from authority which has been abused. Forgive the world its many sins of power wrongly used, and purge us of oppressive and manipulative behaviour. Hear the cries of your people, O God, and enrich us with your righteousness and healing and meet the needs of those who we now name silently in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

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

Almighty God, you are the Lord and Master of all who hold authority in this world. Lead all people to accept you as master of their lives, that everyone may be saved. We ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, 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.**

BLESSING

Let us bless the LORD.
God be praised forevermore.
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 love God and enjoy him forever.
May you love God and enjoy him forever.

WORDS OF SENDING

Go in peace, for God wants everyone to be saved.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Before the throne of God above

**Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea:
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heav'n He stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look, and see Him there who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God, the Just, is satisfied to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.**

**Behold Him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless, righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by His blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.**

Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1892),
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HYMNS AND SONGS

FIRST READING (A): JEREMIAH 8: 18 - 9:1

LHS

- 12 Comfort, comfort ye My people* G4
- 394 God is love, let heaven adore Him G9
- 732 Comfort, comfort all my people GS

AT

- 25 Comfort, comfort all my people
- 286 Sorrowing song
- 483 Is the Lord with us?

Second reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

LHS

141 Father of heaven, whose love profound G5
160 Arise, my soul, arise G9
173 Before the throne of God above G5
185 Sun of righteousness divine* G3
199 Christ, Thou strong guardian* G9
237 Almighty God, whose only Son G5
239 Son of God, eternal Saviour G4
425 Lord, teach us how to pray aright G6
519 While yet the morn is breaking* G4
566 Christ, by heavenly hosts adored G9
572 O God of love, O king of peace* G5
890 Praise God the Saviour G6

AT

168 Hear our prayer
289 Thank you that you hear me
385 If there ever was a time

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

LHS

153 One thing needful, this one treasure G9
163 Would you know what most I prize?* G9
372 We give Thee but Thine own G5
374 O Lord of heaven and earth and sea G9
377 Take my life, and let it be* G6
379 Lord of creation, to Thee be all praise G6

AT

265 For all your goodness, Lord
358 We bring the gifts that you have brought us