



**SERVICE ORDER**  
**Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> October**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Lord, keep your family faithful to you.  
Protect us from all evil, so that we may serve you  
by doing good, to the glory of your name.  
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: PSALM 66:5**

*The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.  
The Lord keeps watch over you as you come  
and go, both now and forever.*

***The Lord keeps you from all harm and watches over your life.  
The Lord keeps watch over you as you come  
and go, both now and forever.***

**INVOCATION**

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

**LHS 426 - WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS**

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.**

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge! Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
in His arms He'll take and shield thee, thou wilt find a solace there.**

Joseph Scriven (1820-1886)

### **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 119:97-104**

*<sup>97</sup> Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.*

*<sup>98</sup> Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies.*

*<sup>99</sup> I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes.*

***Your words are sweeter than honey to my mouth.***

*<sup>100</sup> I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.*

*<sup>101</sup> I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word.*

*<sup>102</sup> I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me.*

***Your words are sweeter than honey to my mouth.***

*<sup>103</sup> How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!*

*<sup>104</sup> I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.*

***Your words are sweeter than honey to my mouth.***

**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 approach God with confidence.*

[silence]

*Almighty and merciful God, the Lord of heaven and earth,  
your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence.  
Give us pure hearts and a sure faith to draw near to you as our Father,  
and to ask you for whatever we need. 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 31:27-34** The Lord's new covenant (NIVUK)

<sup>27</sup> 'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will plant the kingdoms of Israel and Judah with the offspring of people and of animals. <sup>28</sup> Just as I watched over them to uproot and tear down, and to overthrow, destroy and bring disaster, so I will watch over them to build and to plant,' declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup> 'In those days people will no longer say, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." <sup>30</sup> Instead, everyone will die for their own sin; whoever eats sour grapes – their own teeth will be set on edge. <sup>31</sup> 'The days are coming,' declares the LORD, 'when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to<sup>[a]</sup> them,'<sup>[b]</sup> declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup> 'This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time,' declares the LORD. 'I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer will they teach their neighbour, or say to one another, "Know the LORD," because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,' declares the LORD. 'For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.'

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5** Responsibilities of the pastor (NIVUK)

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith

in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the servant of God<sup>[a]</sup> may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. **4** In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup>preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction. <sup>3</sup>For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather round them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. <sup>4</sup>They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. <sup>5</sup>But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

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

**ALLELUIA VERSE**

*Alleluia!*  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
*God will grant justice to his chosen ones*  
*who cry to him day and night.*  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8** Parable of the widow and the judge (NIVUK)

*Before the reading*  
**Glory be to You, O LORD.**

<sup>18</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. <sup>2</sup>He said: ‘In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. <sup>3</sup>And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, “Grant me justice against my adversary.” <sup>4</sup>‘For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, “Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!”’ <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?’

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

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

*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for encouraging us to pray.  
Help us to persist in prayer,  
knowing that God wants what is good for us.*

**Amen.**

### **APOSTLE'S 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**

### **He Will Hold Me Fast**

**When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.**

**He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.**

**Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.**

**He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.**

**For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!**

**He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.**

VV.1-2 Aba Habershon (1861-1918), Alt. words vv1-2, v.3, Matt Merker  
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### **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](#))

### **ROCK OF AGES**

**Rock of ages cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee;  
let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure: cleanse me from its guilt and power.**

**Not the labours of my hands can fulfil Thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears for ever flow,  
all for sin could not atone: Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling;  
naked, come to Thee for dress; helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy judgement throne:  
Rock of ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.**

Augustus Montague Toplady (1740-1778), alt.

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Caring God, help us joyfully and confidently  
to place all we are and all we have in your hands.  
Use us and our possessions according to your will.  
**Amen.***

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Our Lord encourages us never to give up in prayer. With faith in God, and in his justice,  
let us pray for the church, the world and all in need.*

Heavenly Father: thank you for accepting our prayers for Jesus' sake, and for always being more ready to listen to us than we are to pray to you. Forgive our lack of discipline and trust, and every day turn us to you in prayer for ourselves and for others.  
*Lord, in your justice and mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all people, and especially for those who suffer wrong at the hands of others. Correct the world's wrongs so that the starving are fed and the poor are housed. Give integrity and success to all who work for justice and peace, including all judges and magistrates, all lawyers and jurors. When we pray to you for peace, reveal our own aggression, and when we pray to you for justice, convict us of our own greed.  
*Lord, in your justice and mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for this country and for all who have made Australia their home. Bring persecution and wrongful discrimination to an end, and restore the losses suffered by aboriginal people. When we seek reconciliation, bring us to apologise for our past wrong-doing, and when others ask for forgiveness, make us forgiving too.  
*Lord, in your justice and mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for the church around the world, its pastors and people. Defend and strengthen those in danger and on their own. Direct all pastors and teachers in the right use of your word. When we come to you for blessing, move us to love and obey your law, and when we speak to others of your love, warm our cold hearts so that we too radiate your love.  
*Lord, in your justice and mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for those with whom we share our lives, and for all who need your comforting presence. Ease the load of those who carry heavy burdens. Heal the sick, *including (insert names)*, and sustain the dying with true faith in Christ. When we cry to you for

help, turn us toward others in need, and when we help others, make our own dependency clear.

*Lord, in your justice and mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in your longsuffering and patient mercy, hear our prayers for faith and justice, solely for the sake of your Son, 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.**

### **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 the Lord keep you from all  
harm and watch over your life.*

**May the Lord keep you from all  
harm and watch over your life.**



## WORDS OF SENDING

*Go in peace Keep praying and don't become discouraged.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.*

## PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with His love He befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him.  
Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him.**

Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading (a): Jeremiah 31:27-34**

*LHS*

- 299 My God, accept my heart this day G5
- 358 Renew me, O eternal Light\* G3
- 862 As we step from the edge of morning GS

*AT*

- 101 As we step from the edge of morning
- 184 Love is the law

### **Second reading: 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5**

*LHS*

- 193 Jesus, with Thy Church abide\* G9 (*alt tune 82, G5*)
- 194 Thy hand, O God, has guided G3
- 221 Spread, O spread, thou mighty Word\*

245 Lord of the Church, we humbly pray\* G6  
260 Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide\* G3  
261 How shall the young secure their hearts? G6  
265 How blest are they who hear God's Word\* G3  
269 Speak forth Thy word, O Father G4  
272 O Word of God incarnate G6  
273 We have a sure, prophetic Word G7  
373 Lord, speak to me, that I may speak\* G5  
824 Your Word, O Lord, is gentle dew G7  
*AT*  
103 Send your servant

**Gospel: Luke 18:1-8**

*LHS*

16 Hail to the Lord's Anointed G6  
390 Wait, my soul, with patience\* G3  
395 O for a faith that will not shrink\* G7  
409 Commit whatever grieves thee\* G6  
422 Great Shepherd of Thy people, hear\* G6  
425 Lord, teach us how to pray aright G6  
426 What a friend we have in Jesus  
*AT*  
168 Hear our prayer  
219 Then I will praise you