



**SERVICE ORDER**  
Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> March  
Third Sunday in Lent



**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Almighty God,  
look in mercy on our heartfelt desires,  
and stretch out your mighty hand to defend us.  
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: JOHN 4:14**

*No one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again.  
The water I give is like a flowing fountain that gives eternal life.*

**No one who drinks the water I give will ever be thirsty again.  
The water I give is like a flowing fountain that gives eternal life.**

**INVOCATION**

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

**I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, ‘Come unto Me and rest;  
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down Thy head upon my breast’:  
I came to Jesus as I was, Weary and worn and sad;  
I found in Him a resting-place, And he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, ‘Behold, I freely give  
The living water; thirsty one, Stoop down, and drink, and live’:  
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in Him.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's light;  
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, And all thy day be bright':  
I looked to Jesus, and I found In him my star, my sun;  
And in that light of life I'll walk Till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar  
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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 95**

<sup>1</sup> *Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.*

<sup>2</sup> *Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.*

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

<sup>3</sup> *For the LORD is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.*

<sup>4</sup> *In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.*

<sup>5</sup> *The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.*

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

<sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;  
<sup>7</sup> for he is our God  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

Today, if only you would hear his voice,  
<sup>8</sup> 'Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,<sup>[a]</sup>  
as you did that day at Massah<sup>[b]</sup> in the wilderness,  
<sup>9</sup> where your ancestors tested me;  
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

<sup>10</sup> For forty years I was angry with that generation;  
I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,  
and they have not known my ways."

<sup>11</sup> So I declared on oath in my anger,  
"They shall never enter my rest."

**O that today you would listen to his voice!**

**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 live repentant lives.*

[silence]

**Holy and merciful God,  
we thank you for giving your Son Jesus  
to die on the cross for us sinners.**

**Turn us away from our sins  
and back to a life of trust in you.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## **BIBLE READING**

**First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7** The Israelites put God to the test (NIVUK)

<sup>1</sup> The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the LORD to the test?' <sup>3</sup> But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?' <sup>4</sup> Then Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.' <sup>5</sup> The LORD answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup> I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.' So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> And he called the place Massah<sup>[a]</sup> and Meribah<sup>[b]</sup> because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the LORD saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11** While we were still sinners, Christ died for us (NIVUK)

<sup>5</sup> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we<sup>[a]</sup> have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we<sup>[b]</sup> boast in the hope of the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> Not only so, but we<sup>[c]</sup> also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; <sup>4</sup> perseverance, character; and character, hope. <sup>5</sup> And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. <sup>6</sup> You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! <sup>10</sup> For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! <sup>11</sup> Not only is this so, but we also boast in

God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

**LENTEN VERSE: PHILLIPIANS 2:8**

Christ humbled Himself,  
and became obedient unto death,  
even death on a cross.

**GOSPEL: John 4:5-42** Jesus and the Samaritan woman (NIVUK)

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

<sup>5</sup> So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup> When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?' <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) <sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.<sup>[a]</sup>) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.' <sup>11</sup> 'Sir,' the woman said, 'you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?' <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?' <sup>13</sup> Jesus answered, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.' <sup>16</sup> He told her, 'Go, call your husband and come back.' <sup>17</sup> 'I have no husband,' she replied. Jesus said to her, 'You are right when you say you have no husband. <sup>18</sup> The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.' <sup>19</sup> 'Sir,' the woman said, 'I can see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.' <sup>21</sup> 'Woman,' Jesus

replied, 'believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.' <sup>25</sup>The woman said, 'I know that Messiah' (called Christ) 'is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.' <sup>26</sup>Then Jesus declared, 'I, the one speaking to you – I am he.' <sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, 'What do you want?' or 'Why are you talking with her?' <sup>28</sup>Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup>'Come, see a man who told me everything I've ever done. Could this be the Messiah?' <sup>30</sup>They came out of the town and made their way towards him. <sup>31</sup>Meanwhile his disciples urged him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you know nothing about.' <sup>33</sup>Then his disciples said to each other, 'Could someone have brought him food?' <sup>34</sup>'My food,' said Jesus, 'is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. <sup>35</sup>Don't you have a saying, "It's still four months until harvest"? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. <sup>36</sup>Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. <sup>37</sup>Thus the saying "One sows and another reaps" is true. <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.' <sup>39</sup>Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I've ever done.' <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. <sup>41</sup>And because of his words many more became believers. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, 'We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.'

*After the reading*

*This is the gospel of the LORD.*

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

**Thank you, Lord Jesus, for the living water of eternal life.**

**Help us to believe in you  
and to worship God in spirit and in truth.**

**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**

### Cornerstone

(My hope is built on nothing less)

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus name.**

**My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus name.**

**Christ alone, cornerstone: weak made strong in the Saviour's love;  
through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all.**

**When Darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil;  
my anchor holds within the veil.**

**Christ alone, cornerstone: weak made strong in the Saviour's love;  
through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all. He is Lord, Lord of all.**

**Christ alone, Christ alone, cornerstone,  
weak made strong; in the Saviour's love;  
through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all.**

**Christ alone, cornerstone, weak made strong in the Saviour's love;  
through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, O, may I then in Him be found;  
dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless stand before the throne.**

Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan  
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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](#))

## **Today Your Mercy Calls Us**

**Today Your mercy calls us to wash away our sin,  
however great our trespass, whatever we have been;  
however long from mercy our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us and make us clean today.**

**Today your gate is open, and all who enter in  
will find a Father's welcome, and pardon for their sin;  
the past will be forgotten, a present joy be given,  
a future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heaven.**

**Today our Father calls us, His Holy Spirit waits,  
His blessed angels gather around the heavenly gates;  
no question will be asked us how often we have come;  
although we've often wandered, it is our Father's home.**

**O all-embracing mercy! O ever-open gate!  
What should we do without You when sorrows are too great?  
When all things seem against us, to drive us to despair,  
we know one door is open, one ear will hear our prayer.**

Oswald Allen 1816-78, alt.  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

*Lord, you have given so much to us.  
Help us to show in our deeds  
the faith you have planted within us.  
Make us ready to serve you and other people  
with all that we are and all that we have.  
**Amen.***

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*When God gave us the gift of his Holy Spirit in the living waters of baptism, he called us to pray to him as our Father. Let us pray to him in the name of Jesus for the church, the world, and those in need.*

Heavenly Father: thank you that Jesus gives us the living water of his saving word and holy baptism. Keep us close to him by staying close to the scriptures and the church.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all people preparing for baptism or confirmation at this time. Lead them in your truth and give them confidence in confessing you before others.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bring justice to people who are wrongly treated by others. Curb all violence and crime, and bring peace to all nations and communities.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, teach our world the truth about marriage and the blessing you give through it. Give your grace and strength to all married couples and help them fulfill their marriage vows, that they would always seek to serve and forgive each other.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Supply all people with the water they need for daily life, and remove disease and famine.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bring healthy births to women expecting children, Comfort those who face the loss of loved ones, and provide for all in need, including those known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts...*(brief silence)*  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Father, you give your Spirit to those who ask you. Pour out your Spirit on us to refresh us and bring us to life in 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.**

### **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 Jesus pour his love into your heart.*

**May Jesus pour his love into your heart.**

### **WORDS OF SENDING**

*Go in peace.*

*Christ has reconciled us to God and will save us.*

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## In the house of God

Your love surrounds me like a tent around me on a dark and stormy night.  
Tho' fear is creeping as the darkness deepens, I will stay beside this light.

*I will live with You for ever, I will live inside Your shelter.  
I will live with You for ever in the house of God.*

When death was coming, I was helpless, running, but I had no place to hide.  
O, Jesus heard me cryin', Jesus saw me dyin', He came to my side.

*I will live with You for ever, I will live inside Your shelter.  
I will live with You for ever in the house of God.*

You left Your Father, O, my baby brother, for the manger and the cross.  
Your death is life for me, You killed my enemy, O, death has fin'ly lost.

*I will live with You for ever, I will live inside Your shelter.  
I will live with You for ever in the house of God.*

The broken people, and the poor and feeble find a place of shelter here.  
There's room for more to come and join the Father's Son,  
His love will take your fear.

*I will live with You for ever, I will live inside Your shelter.  
I will live with You for ever in the house of God.*

Robin Mann 1978  
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## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading: Exodus 17:1-7**

#### **LHS**

- 341 Jesus, lead Thou on\* G3  
347 Guide me, O Thou great  
Jehovah G6  
507 Open now thy gates of beauty\*  
G3  
**AT**  
70 I've got peace like a river  
483 Is the Lord with us or not

### **Second reading: Romans 5:1-11**

#### **LHS**

- 165 One there is, above all others\*  
G8  
323 Blessed are the sons of God\* G4  
324 Salvation unto us has come\* G5  
327 Jesus, Thy blood and  
righteousness\* G3  
328 By grace I'm saved  
331 My hope is built on nothing  
less\* G5  
441 With joyful heart your praises  
bring\* G3  
447 I will praise Thee, O my God and  
Father  
803 Peace with the Father G7  
851 Amazing grace GS  
852 God loved the world so that he  
gave G5  
878 Your love surrounds me GS  
**AT**  
10 In the house of God  
125 Celebration song

- 130 I am covered over  
131 Amazing grace  
144 No longer strangers  
145 Wondrous love  
225 Why do you love me?  
345 Nothing but the blood  
352 Your love keeps following me  
376 Faith, hope and love

### **Gospel: John 4:5-42**

#### **LHS**

- 53 Jesus, refuge of the weary\* G3  
82 (V) Jesus in thy thirst and pain G5  
156 Jesus our Saviour, of true joy  
the giver\*  
158 Jesus, lover of my soul  
304 Delay not, delay not G7  
305 Today Thy mercy calls us\* G3  
306 I heard the voice of Jesus say G7  
317 Jesus sinners doth receive\* G5  
357 O God, Thou faithful God\* G3  
475 If we have died  
516 O Splendour of God's glory  
bright G8  
781 As water to the thirsty  
869 Like the deer that yearns GS  
**AT**  
70 I've got peace like a river  
137 I heard the voice of Jesus say  
206 As the deer pants  
226 All is nearness  
239 Listen to him  
435 Wellsprings  
451 Saviour of the world