

SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 25 June Forth Sunday After Pentecost



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Lord, govern the world
and keep it in peace,
so that your church may joyfully serve you
in all quietness.
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: MATTHEW 10:32

All those who stand before others and say they believe in me, I will say before my father in heaven that they belong to me.

All those who stand before others and say they believe in me, I will say before my father in heaven that they belong to me.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

The Blessing

The Lord bless you And keep you Make his face shine upon you And be gracious to you The Lord turn his Face toward you And give you peace

Amen, Amen, Amen

The Lord bless you And keep you Make his face shine upon you And be gracious to you The Lord turn his Face toward you And give you peace

Amen, Amen, Amen

May his favour Be upon you And a thousand generations

And your family And your children And their children

May his presence Go before you And behind you And beside you All around you And within you He is with you He is with you

In the morning In the evening In your coming And your going In your weeping And rejoicing He is for you He is for you

Amen, Amen, Amen

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

BLESSED BE YOUR NAME

Blessed be Your name In the land that is plentiful Where Your streams of abundance flow Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be Your name

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll Turn back to praise When the darkness closes in Lord Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be Your glorious name

Blessed be Your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be Your name Blessed be Your name On the road marked with suffering Though there's pain in the offering Blessed be Your name

You give and take away You give and take away
My heart will choose to say Lord blessed be Your name

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PSALM 86:1-10,16,17

Hear me, LORD, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.
 Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
 save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God;
 have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long.
 Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you.
 Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

⁵ You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.
 ⁶ Hear my prayer, LORD; listen to my cry for mercy.
 ⁷ When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.
 Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

⁸ Among the gods there is none like you, Lord; no deeds can compare with yours.
⁹ All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord; they will bring glory to your name.

¹⁰ For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

¹⁶ Turn to me and have mercy on me; show your strength in behalf of your servant; save me, because I serve you just as my mother did.

Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

¹⁷ Give me a sign of your goodness, that my enemies may see it and be put to shame, for you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

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 new life in Christ. [silence]

Thank you, loving God,
that we have been baptised into Christ's death.
We pray that, as you raised him from death,
we too live a new life, dead to sin,
but alive for you in Jesus Christ.
For he lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READING

FIRST READING: Genesis 21:8-21 God's promise to Hagar and Ishmael

⁸The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. 9 But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, 10 and she said to Abraham, "Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac." ¹¹The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. ¹² But God said to him, "Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring [a] will be reckoned. 13 I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring." 14 Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. 15 When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. 16 Then she went off and sat down about a bowshot away, for she thought, "I cannot watch the boy die." And as she sat there, she began to sob. 17 God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, "What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. 18 Lift the boy up and take him

by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation." ¹⁹ Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰ God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. ²¹ While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

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

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11 Dead to sin, but alive to Christ

6 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? ² By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. ⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, ^[a] that we should no longer be slaves to sin— ⁷ because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39 Do not be afraid; take up your cross and follow Christ

Before the reading Glory be to You, O LORD.

²⁴ "The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household! ²⁶ "So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. ²⁸ Do not be

afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. ^{[a] 30} And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. ³² "Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. ³⁴ "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to turn "'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law— ³⁶ a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.' ^{[b] 37} "Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

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

Thank you, Lord Jesus,
for giving up your life for us.
Help us to trust in you more than everything else. 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

Amazing Grace – my chains are gone

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear, and Grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that Grace appear the hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Saviour, has ransomed me.

And like a flood, His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing Grace.

The Lord has promised good to me. His Word, my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Saviour, has ransomed me.

And like a flood, His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing Grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below, will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Saviour, has ransomed me. And like a flood, His mercy reigns, unending love, amazing Grace.

Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio
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SERMON

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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)

Praise my soul the King of heaven

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to His feet thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!

Praise Him for This grace and favour to His people in distress; praise Him still the same for ever, slow to chide and swift to bless.

Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious is His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us; well our feeble frame He knows; in His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.

Alleluia, alleluia! widely as His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him; you behold Him face to face; sun and moon bow down before Him, dwellers all in time and space.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847), alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord, you have given us the privilege
of being your servants,
telling other people about you
and showing your compassion through our actions.
Give us courage to serve you
and not to count the cost.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

We have been given new life through our baptism into Christ Jesus. Let us come to God our Father in his name, praying for the church and for the world.

Heavenly Father: thank you for including us in your new world by our baptism, and for nurturing us in the faith as a sheer act of your forgiving grace. Give us strength to take up the cross of indifference and opposition to Christ from within ourselves and from people close to us.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Soften the hearts and minds of all who do not yet follow Jesus, and grow the faith of those who are lukewarm in their commitment to him. Help us witness in the best way possible to members of our family, and reassure us of your constant care.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Be with all those preparing for baptism or confirmation. Protect them from spiritual attack, and equip them for their journey in life.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole church, that it may acknowledge you before the world by all that it says and does. Protect those who are persecuted, and have mercy on the enemies of the church.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Send out labourers into your harvest fields, dear Father, and watch over those preparing to serve you as pastors. We also pray for congregations in the call process, that you will provide them with the help they need during their vacancy and give them patience as they wait for the pastor you have already prepared for them.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Have mercy on this poor world Lord - on those torn apart by disaster and war; on those worn out by poverty and disease. Replace hatred and abuse with good will and peace. Thank you for blessing our country with good government, peace and stability. Bless our land so that people may be fed and clothed, with thanksgiving.

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones, those who are dying and those who care for them. Prepare us all for death by firm faith in Christ. And meet the needs of those we know personally to be in want, and whom we now name silently in our hearts...(brief silence)

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

We thank you, Lord, that you are always more ready to listen to us than we are to pray. In your great mercy hear our prayers, 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 you always know how valuable you are to God.

May you always know how valuable you are to God.

WORDS OF SENDING

Go in peace, to take up your cross and follow the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul, I worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up; it's a new day dawning; it's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul, I worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger, Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing, 10,000 reasons for my heart to find: (To) Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul, I worship Your holy name.

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come, still my soul will sing Your praise unending, 10,000 years and then forever more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul, I worship Your holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship His holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul, I worship Your holy name. I worship Your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul: I worship Your holy name. I worship Your holy name. I worship Your holy name.

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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading (a): Genesis 21:8-21

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- 400 From God shall naught divide me* G3
- 401 When in the hour of utmost need G3
- 406 God still lives, and His compassion G7
- 408 Beloved, it is well*
- 414 God moves in a mysterious way G7
- 415 Whatever God ordains is good* G3
- 452 O bless the Lord, my soul
- 465 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven G7

ΑT

- 212 Hush now
- 233 He will listen to you
- 333 You are our God
- 375 Come and hear
- 399 Holding out your hand

Second reading: Romans 6:1b-11

LHS

277 Baptized into Thy name most holy* G4

279 He that believes and is baptized* (alt tune 106, G3) 360 O Love, who formedst me to wear G9 361 Let us ever walk with Jesus* G5 828 I am baptized - O blessed day GS 829 I was made a Christian G5 831 O baptized people, one and all G3 We praise you, Lord, for Jesus Christ G5 833 AT 13 Lord of the morning 118 The baptism song 190 The way is low 268 Christ has died 276 Into your death 316 From the air and from the light 320 I was there to hear your borning cry 417 Water and the Spirit 421 Born forever 432 M-m-m-miracle 495 Come and follow me 502 Patiently waiting for you Gospel: Matthew 10:24-39 **LHS** 4 Once He came in blessing* G4 149 Jesus, priceless treasure* G3 195 A mighty fortress is our God* G3 Thou little flock, be not dismayed 200 300 Let me be Thine for ever* G5 349 Jesus, I my cross have taken G3 'Take up thy cross,' the Saviour said G9 351 Holy Father, Thou hast taught me* G5 353 Who trusts in God, a strong abode G9 384 867 Have no fear, little flock G6 ΑT

- 96 Don't give up
- Jesus, Son of God and man 185
- 205 What you hear in the dark
- 401 Follow me
- 404 Let nothing trouble you
- 495 Come and follow me