



## **SERVICE ORDER**

**Sunday, 12 November 2023  
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost  
Together with GLPS Year 4**



### **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Stir up, Lord, the wills of your faithful people.  
Help us richly bear the fruit of good works,  
and give us your rich reward.  
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**

**The Lord himself, with a cry of command,  
with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet,  
will descend from heaven,  
and the dead in Christ will rise first.**

*(1 Thess 4:16 NRSV)*

### **INVOCATION**

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

**Amen.**

### **O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold Him, born the king of angels:  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**God of God, Light of light,  
lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten, not created:  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet You, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to You be glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!**

Latin hymn, before 18th century Tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1852, alt.  
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### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*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.***

**Amen.**

### **LORD HAVE MERCY - WT**

*(spoken)*

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Christ, have mercy.*

**Christ, have mercy.**

*Lord, have mercy.*

**Lord, have mercy.**

## SONG OF ADORATION - WT

Praise to God who reigns on high;  
peace on earth to those He loves.  
We praise and thank and worship You,  
Lord our God, our heavenly king,  
God the Father, mighty one.

Only Son, Lord Jesus Christ,  
Lamb of God, the Father's Son,  
You take away our sin and guilt;  
You that sit at God's right hand,  
hear us and have mercy, Lord.

You alone are holy, Christ,  
only You are Lord of all;  
for, with the Spirit, You alone  
share the Father's glory, Christ.  
Praise the Lord most high! Amen.

*The Lord be with you.*  
**And also with you.**  
*Let us pray.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Awaken us, Lord,  
so that when your Son comes  
we may be ready to receive him with joy  
and serve you with clean hearts.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen.

## PSALM 70

<sup>1</sup> *Hasten, O God, to save me;*  
**come quickly, LORD, to help me.**

<sup>2</sup> *May those who want to take my life*  
**be put to shame and confusion;**  
*may all who desire my ruin*  
**be turned back in disgrace.**

<sup>3</sup> *May those who say to me, 'Aha! Aha!'*  
**turn back because of their shame.**

<sup>4</sup> *But may all who seek you*  
**rejoice and be glad in you;**  
*may those who long for your saving help always say,*  
**'The LORD is great!'**

<sup>5</sup> *But as for me, I am poor and needy;*  
**come quickly to me, O God.**  
*You are my help and my deliverer;*  
**LORD, do not delay.**

**Glory to the Father and the Son**  
**and the Holy Spirit,**  
**as it was in the beginning, is now,**  
**and will be forever.**

**Amen.**

## BIBLE READING

**FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24** The day of the Lord

<sup>18</sup> Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light. <sup>19</sup> It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. <sup>20</sup> Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light – pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? <sup>21</sup> 'I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. <sup>22</sup> Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. <sup>23</sup> Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. <sup>24</sup> But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

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

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** Questions about the Lord's coming

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. <sup>15</sup> According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord for ever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13** Parable of the wise and foolish girls

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

**25** "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup> The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. <sup>6</sup> "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' <sup>7</sup> "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' <sup>12</sup> "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' <sup>13</sup> "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

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

### **AWAY IN A MANGER**

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.**

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### **MESSAGE**

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.  
For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))  
For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

### **THIS I BELIEVE (THE CREED)**

**Our Father everlasting The all creating One  
God Almighty Through Your Holy Spirit  
Conceiving Christ the Son Jesus our Saviour**

**I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus**

**Our judge and our defender Suffered and crucified  
Forgiveness is in You Descended into darkness  
You rose in glorious life Forever seated high**

**I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus**

**I believe in You I believe You rose again  
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord**

**I believe in life eternal I believe in the virgin birth  
I believe in the saints' communion And in Your holy Church  
I believe in the resurrection When Jesus comes again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus**

**I believe in God our Father I believe in Christ the Son  
I believe in the Holy Spirit Our God is three in One  
I believe in the resurrection That we will rise again  
For I believe in the Name of Jesus**

**Ben Fielding | Matt Crocker**

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### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Thank you, Lord, for all your gifts,  
and for giving us the privilege of serving you.  
Help us to be alert and ready for your coming,  
serving you faithfully and doing your will.  
Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*The days of this old world are quickly running out, and our Lord calls us to remain alert in prayer. Therefore let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.*

Heavenly Father: thank you for bringing about a new creation through you Son, Jesus Christ. And thank you for giving us a place in your new world by the power of the Holy Spirit. Keep us and all your people awake to the temptations of unbelief, and supply us with faith.

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

Bless all pastors and evangelists. Bring fruitful growth to the word they sow. Guide bishops *Paul Smith & Mark Vannikka*) as they oversee our church. Keep us and all your people awake to error and division, and supply us with unity in the truth and with love for one another.

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

Let your Spirit guide us today and in the week ahead as we go about our daily lives. Thank you for the many blessings you have showered upon us, and give us confidence as we look ahead. Keep us and all your people awake to skepticism and confusion, and supply us with listening hearts and sound judgment.

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

Supply the people of this world with all they need for healthy life. Bless all people with legitimate daily work. Keep us and all your people awake to true and honest service in the world, and supply us with people to receive our witness to Christ.

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

Thank you for those in our armed forces, past and present. And thank you for the peace we have enjoyed for so long. Restrain the hand of evil and destruction in the world. Direct our Prime Minister and other government leaders in their response to violence and terror. Keep us and all your people awake to our duties as citizens and neighbours, and supply us with clarity in distinguishing law and gospel.

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

Have mercy, Lord, on the sick and bereaved, and on all who are in despair. Help us to see and respond to the needs of others, and supply us with compassion for those who suffer, including 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.*



Bless the families, students, and staff at Grace Lutheran Primary School. Today we pray specially for Elsie in PA, Reuban in PM, Owen in 1C, Henry in 2R, Evie & Olivia in 3A Eden in 3H, Joshua in 4N, Alexa in 5R, Kenan in 5T, Bridey & Summer in 6J and staff members Linley & Jo. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

Heavenly Father, when we are tired, give us strength; when we are careless, make us alert; and when we feel like giving up, fill us with the hope of the day your Son will be revealed in glory. So hear the prayers we pray 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 TO SHARE**

May God help you to wait well this Advent.  
**May God help you to wait well this Advent.**  
May your heart be open to Jesus,  
**May your heart be open to Jesus,**  
And your life filled with his peace.  
**And your life filled with his peace.**

Amen.

**Amen.**

**JOY TO THE WORLD**

**(Unspeakable Joy )**

**Joy to the world the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and heaven and nature sing**

**Joy to the world the Savior reigns  
Let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat repeat the sounding joy**

**Joy unspeakable joy An overflowing well  
No tongue can tell Joy unspeakable joy  
It rises in my soul Never lets me go**

**He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders wonders of His love**

**Joy unspeakable joy An overflowing well  
No tongue can tell Joy unspeakable joy  
It rises in my soul Never lets me go**

**Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Matt Gilder  
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## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading (b): Amos 5:18-24**

#### **LHS**

314 Turn, Lord, Thine anger, and in mercy spare us G4

490 O Son of God, we wait for Thee\* G3

#### **AT**

332 We are sorry

### **Second reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

#### **LHS**

92 Christ the Lord is risen today (vv 4,5,6) (G, STJ 11)

95 He is risen, he is risen\* G3

101 Jesus lives! thy terrors now\* G5

103 I know that my Redeemer lives\* G3

279 He that believes and is baptized\* (*alt tune* 106, G3)

479 Jesus my Redeemer lives\* G5

485 The day is surely drawing near\* G5

486 Great God, what do I see and hear\* G5

782 At the name of Jesus G7

854 Be still, my soul

#### **AT**

150 Sing a new song

167 I am the Bread of Life

179 Come let us eat (v 4)

235 In your hand, my Saviour

268 Christ has died (Response)

### **Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13**

#### **LHS**

287 Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness\* (esp v 2) G5

487 Wake, awake for night is flying\* G6

489 Rejoice, rejoice, believers\* G4

#### **AT**

85 Give me oil in my lamp

187 Help us, Lord, to wait for you

309 When the Lord returns