

SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 28 January Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Almighty God, you know that we are placed in the midst of such great dangers that we cannot stand upright because of our human frailty. Make us whole in mind and body. Support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations. 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 SENTENCES

This we know: there is only one God—our Father. **All things came from him, and we live for him.** This we know: there is only one Lord—Jesus Christ. **By him life was given to us.** Living in the knowledge our God has given, **Let us serve and build others up in love.**

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise My great Redeemer's praise The glories of my God and King The triumphs of His grace The triumphs of His grace The triumphs of His grace

Jesus the name that charms our fears That bids our sorrows cease That bids our sorrows cease 'Tis music in the sinner's ears 'Tis life and health and peace 'Tis life and health and peace 'Tis life and health and peace

He breaks the power of cancelled sin He sets the prisoner free He sets the prisoner free His blood can make the foulest clean His blood availed for me His blood availed for me His blood availed for me

He speaks and listening to His voice New life the dead receive New life the dead receive The mournful broken hearts rejoice The humble poor believe The humble poor believe The humble poor believe

Hear Him ye deaf His praise ye dumb Your loosened tongues employ Your loosened tongues employ Ye blind behold your Saviour come And leap ye lame for joy And leap ye lame for joy And leap ye lame for joy

My gracious Master and my God Assist me to proclaim Assist me to proclaim To spread through all the earth abroad The honours of Thy name The honours of Thy name The honours of Thy name

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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.

GOD FORGIVES

..... peace be with you. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LORD HAVE MERCY

(spoken)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

SONG OF ADORATION

To God be the glory

To God be the glory, great things He has done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He has done!

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He has done!

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and merciful God, we thank that you know us so fully and yet love us so deeply. Help us, through the power of your Holy Spirit, to grow deeper, wider, and fuller in our knowledge and understanding of your ways, and richer in our love for others. Make us humble servants of others, celebrating your wonderful service of us in Christ. Amen.

PSALM 111

¹ Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly. ² Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

³ Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures for ever. ⁴ He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate. ⁵ *He provides food for those who fear him;* he remembers his covenant for ever. ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations. ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. ⁸ They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness. ⁹ He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant for ever holy and awesome is his name. ¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

> 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: Deuteronomy 18:15-20 The Lord promises a prophet like Moses

¹⁵ The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him. ¹⁶ For this is what you asked of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, 'Let us not hear the voice of the LORD our God nor see this great fire any more, or we will die.' ¹⁷ The LORD said to me: 'What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their fellow Israelites, and I will put my words in his mouth. He will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ I myself will call to account anyone who does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name. ²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, is to be put to death.'

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Freedom and the conscience of your fellow believer

8 Now about food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'We all possess knowledge.' But knowledge puffs up while love builds up.² Those who think they know something do not yet know as they ought to know. ³ But whoever loves God is known by God. ⁴ So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: we know that 'An idol is nothing at all in the world' and that 'There is no God but one.' ⁵ For even if there are so-called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many 'gods' and many 'lords'), ⁶ yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom all things came and for whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things came and through whom we live. ⁷ But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat sacrificial food they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled. ⁸ But food does not bring us near to God; we are no worse if we do not eat, and no better if we do. ⁹ Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling-block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if someone with a weak conscience sees you, with all your knowledge, eating in an idol's temple, won't that person be emboldened to eat what is sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So this weak brother or sister, for whom Christ died, is destroyed by your knowledge. ¹² When you sin against them in this way and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if what I eat causes my brother or sister to fall into sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I will not cause them to fall.

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

GOSPEL: Mark 1:21-28 Jesus teaches with authority

Before the reading Glory be to You, O LORD.

²¹They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²²The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³Just then a

man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, ²⁴ 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!' ²⁵ 'Be quiet!' said Jesus sternly. 'Come out of him!' ²⁶ The impure spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. ²⁷ The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, 'What is this? A new teaching – and with authority! He even gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him.' ²⁸ News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.

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

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

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MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon. For Church YouTube Channel (<u>click here</u>) For LCA Worship Resources (<u>click here</u>)

HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear It soothes his sorrows heals his wounds And drives away his fear

It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the troubled breast 'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary rest

Dear name the rock on which I build My shield and hiding place My never-failing treasury Filled with boundless stores of grace

Jesus my shepherd brother friend My Prophet Priest and King My Lord my life my way my end Accept the praise I bring

Weak is the effort of my heart And cold my warmest thought But when I see Thee as Thou art I'll praise Thee as I ought

Till then I would Thy love proclaim With every fleeting breath And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death

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OFFERING PRAYER

Lord God, all we have comes from you and we have life through you alone. Lead us to use what we have received in a spirit of love, so that others are served and built up. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Lord Jesus Christ speaks with authority, so that even the unclean spirits obey him. Let us pray to our heavenly Father in Jesus' name.

Thank you, Lord, for sending your prophets, and especially for sending your Son Jesus with your own authority and power to save us from sin and evil. There are so many people around us who claim to have the answers to life's problems. Help us above all to listen to Jesus, and to follow him in faith and obedience.

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer

As a new school year begins we pray for teachers everywhere, that they may teach with true authority. And we pray for all children, that they may honour and respect their teachers and learn from them. Bless our church's activities as many begin again for the New Year.

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer

Help all who have the responsibility of teaching the gospel of Jesus Christ: may they teach with his authority and compassion. Help Christian parents take up their job of forming their children in the faith.

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, have mercy on people held captive by evil, and free them from their oppression. Still the voices of all false prophets and false teachers, and let the power of Jesus' love and truth break through all defences.

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer

We commit to you all who are unwell or in need and those who care for them, especially, and others known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts... (brief silence)

Lord in your mercy: Hear our prayer

Lord, only you can deliver us from evil, and keep us walking in your light and salvation. Let us always fear you, so that we may live wisely, and so that we may continually join the whole church on earth and the hosts of heaven as they praise you forever. We ask this through 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 TO SHARE

May our living God fill you with new life. **May our living God fill you with new life.** May our all-knowing God help you to know him better. **May our all-knowing God help you to know him better.** May our loving God lead you in loving others. Amen. **May our loving God lead you in loving others. Amen.**

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME IT IS

You were the Word at the beginning one with God the Lord Most High, Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is; the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this; what a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus You didn't want heaven without us, so Jesus, You brought heaven down. My sin was great, Your love was greater, what could separate us now?

What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is; the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this; what a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You, You silenced the boast of sin and grave. The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory, for You are raised to life again.

> You have no rival, You have no equal, now and forever, God You reign. Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory, Yours is the Name above all names.

What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus Christ my King. What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against; what a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

> What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus. What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus.

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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading : Deuteronomy 18:15-20

LHS

- 194 Thy hand, O God, has guided
- 244 Lord, pour Thy Spirit from on high*
- 245 Lord of the Church, we humbly pray*
- 822 God has spoken by His prophets G6
- AT
- 239 Breezes whisper without meaning
- 244 We have seen the Word of Life

Second reading : 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

LHS

- 139 We all believe in one true God*
- 337 God from all eternity* (alt tune 276, G5)
- 357 O God, Thou faithful God* G3
- 381 O God our Father, throned on high (alt tune 391, G9)
- 853 A new commandment GS
- 860 When this earth was created GS

AT

- 65 A new commandment
- 99 Pentecost prayer
- 120 One God
- 292 Lord Jesus, we belong to you

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

LHS

- 47 Songs of thankfulness and praise* G4
- 159 O for a thousand tongues to sing* G5
- 161 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds G4
- 452 O bless the Lord, my soul
- 795 When Jesus came the demons cried GS
- 815 O Christ the healer, we have come G6

AT

148 They knew who he was