



SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 18 February 2024
First Sunday in Lent



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Lord, in mercy listen to our prayers.
Stretch out your mighty hand
to defend us from all the evil we face.
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

John baptized Jesus in the waters of the Jordan.

God the Father said, "You are my Son, whom I love. With you I am well pleased."

We are washed by the waters of our baptism.

God the Father says, "You are my children, whom I love. With you I am well pleased."

We gather as God's beloved children to worship and to serve.

Let us tell the good news of God's cleansing love!

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

HOLY SPIRIT LIVING BREATH OF GOD

Holy Spirit living Breath of God
Breathe new life into my willing soul
Let the presence of the risen Lord
Come renew my heart and make me whole
Cause Your word to come alive in me
Give me faith for what I cannot see
Give me passion for Your purity
Holy Spirit breathe new life in me

Holy Spirit come abide within
May Your joy be seen in all I do
Love enough to cover ev'ry sin
In each thought and deed and attitude
Kindness to the greatest and the least
Gentleness that sows the path of peace
Turn my strivings into works of grace
Breath of God show Christ in all I do

Holy Spirit from creation's birth
Giving life to all that God has made
Show Your power once again on earth
Cause Your church to hunger for Your ways
Let the fragrance of our pray'rs arise
Lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ
May be clear for all the world to see

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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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.

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.

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

Loving God, thank you for drawing us together to be your people through water and through Word. Help us, as we meet together, to see ourselves as you see us. Give us faith to hear your words of love beyond some of the hard realities of our lives. May your Holy Spirit guide and inspire us to recognise your presence in all we do, whether we are in the wilderness or in verdant fields. Amen.

PSALM 25:1-10

¹ *In you, LORD my God,
I put my trust.*

² *I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.*

³ *No one who hopes in you
will ever be put to shame,
but shame will come on those
who are treacherous without cause.*

⁴ *Show me your ways, LORD,
teach me your paths.*

⁵ *Guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my Saviour,
and my hope is in you all day long.*

⁶ *Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love,
for they are from of old.*

⁷ *Do not remember the sins of my youth
and my rebellious ways;
according to your love remember me,
for you, LORD, are good.*

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.

⁹ He guides the humble in what is right
and teaches them his way.

¹⁰ All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful
toward those who keep the demands of his covenant.

**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: Genesis 9:8-17 God's covenant with Noah

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: ⁹ 'I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you ¹⁰ and with every living creature that was with you – the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you – every living creature on earth. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you: never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth.' ¹² And God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: ¹³ I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.' ¹⁷ So God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.'

After the reading

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22 The flood a symbol of baptism

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being

made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits –²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,²¹ and this water symbolises baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience towards God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand – with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

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

GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15 The baptism, temptation, and preaching of Jesus

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: ‘You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.’ ¹²At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³and he was in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. ¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵‘The time has come,’ he said. ‘The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!’

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

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 Savior 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 Savior 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 Savior loves me so He will hold me fast**

**Ada Ruth Habershon, Matthew Merker
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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](#))

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**

FATHER WELCOMES

**Father welcomes all His children
to His family through His Son,
Father giving His salvation, I
ife for ever has been won.**

**Little children, come to Me
for My kingdom is of these,
Life and love I have to
give, mercy for your sin:**

**Father welcomes all His children
to His family through His Son,
Father giving His salvation,
life for ever has been won.**

**In the water, in the Word,
in His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptised and
believe shall be born again:**

**Father welcomes all His children
to His family through His Son,
Father giving His salvation,
life for ever has been won.**

**Let us daily die to sin
Let us daily rise with Him
Walk in the love of Christ our
Lord Live in the peace of God**

**Father welcomes all His children
to His family through His Son,
Father giving His salvation,
life for ever has been won.**

**Robin Mann 1949- (1973)
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OFFERING PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, for washing away our sins, and for promising to be our God forever. As our real life is with Christ, help us to live as members of your kingdom, trusting and serving you and giving ourselves in love and service to others. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights in the desert. Let us pray for all who hunger in body or soul, that our Father in heaven would satisfy their needs.

Dear Heavenly Father: just as your Son was tempted in the desert, we pray for all those who face temptations or trials that seem too great for them. See them through the time of trial, give them the strength and the faith to carry on despite their hardships, and send them your Spirit of peace to sustain them.

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

We pray for all those who are newly baptised or young in the faith, and everyone who is preparing for baptism or confirmation. Give them special strength against the temptation of unbelief. Teach them to keep their eyes fixed on you and your promises rather than the world around them. Bless and keep all those who are struggling with bad consciences. Lead them to see that in you is forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for all who are baptised and believe. Send us all your Holy Spirit so that day after day we might willingly die to sin and rise to new life in Christ Jesus. Let everyone who believes never be put to shame, but give us the strength to proudly stand on the Gospel.

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

Guide and protect everyone in positions of leadership. Help them resist every temptation to abuse their power and keep them honest in all their dealings. We pray that people everywhere who are starving or in need won't be tempted to despair, but that their needs may be provided for.

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

Heavenly Father, this Lenten season, draw us closer to you and lead us into deeper faith and devotion. Strengthen all those who have undertaken fasting or opportunities for extra service during Lent, and keep them safe from the temptation to glorify themselves or to draw attention to themselves in any way. Guide your church into genuine repentance and help us all to focus our lives according to your will, constantly striving to lead holy lives, even as you have made us holy.

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

Bless the families, students, and staff at Grace Lutheran Primary School. Today we pray specially for Karlee, Lukas & Mikayla B, Archie & Riley F, Grayson L, Joseph C, Charlize, George & Mia and staff members Jodie B & Kate B. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

Father in heaven, receive the prayers of your sons and daughters who seek your favour. Free us from all evil, so that we may serve you in peace and joy; 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 God's Spirit descend upon you, touching you with God's love.
May God's Spirit descend upon you, touching you with God's love.
May God give you strength in testing times.
May God give you strength in testing times.
May God come near to you, now and always.
May God come near to you, now and always. Amen.

HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE

How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that He should give His only Son
to make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
the Father turns His face away,
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
my sin upon His shoulders;
ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
until it was accomplished;
His dying death has brought me life -
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
but I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
but this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend
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HYMNS AND SONGS

First reading: Genesis 9:8-17

LHS

394 God is love; let heaven adore Him G9

AT

152 I have made a covenant with my chosen

Second reading:1 Peter 3:18-22

LHS

- 71 Come to Calvary's holy mountain* G5
- 277 Baptized into Thy Name most holy* G4
- 317 Jesus sinners doth receive* G5
- 331 My hope is built on nothing less* G5
- 826 Father welcomes all his children GS
- 828 I am baptised - O blessed day GS
- 831 O baptised children one and all G3

AT

- 4 Father welcomes
- 118 The baptism song
- 421 Born forever

Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

LHS

- 277 Baptized into Thy name most holy* G4
- 748 When Christ our Lord to Jordan came G7
- 756 O Lord, throughout these forty days G5
- 791 O love, how deep, how broad, how high G5
- 826 Father welcomes GS

AT

- 4 Father welcomes
- 118 The baptism song
- 443 Like an angel