



CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 4 May 2025
Third Sunday of Easter



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Lord God, your own Son was humiliated
to lift up fallen humanity and to rescue us
from the dangers of everlasting death.
Give eternal joy to your faithful people.
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

*Once Saul was breathing threats and violence—
but Jesus met him on the road and called him by name.*
**We come to worship our Lord who transforms hearts
and opens blind eyes to God's grace.**
*We too have been called by name,
rescued by mercy and sent out in love.*
*Let us rise in faith and answer the call to new life,
for the same Spirit that changed Saul dwells in us.*

INVOCATION

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

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord; open the eyes of my heart:
I want to see You; I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord; open the eyes of my heart:
I want to see You; I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord; open the eyes of my heart:
I want to see You; I want to see You**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord; open the eyes of my heart:
I want to see You; I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy; I want to see You**

**Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy; I want to see You.**

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord; open the eyes of my heart:
I want to see You; I want to see You**

**To see You high and lifted up shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love as we sing holy, holy, holy**

**Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.
Holy, holy, holy; I want to see You**

**Paul Baloche
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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.

ONLY A HOLY GOD

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven?

Who else could make every king bow down?

Who else can whisper and darkness trembles?

Only a Holy God!

What other beauty demands such praises?

What other splendour outshines the sun?

What other majesty rules with justice?

Only a Holy God!

Come and behold Him – the One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy; forever a Holy God.

Come and worship the Holy God!

What other glory consumes like fire?

What other power can raise the dead?

What other name remains undefeated?

Only a Holy God!

Come and behold Him – the One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy; forever a Holy God.

Come and worship the Holy God!

**Who else could rescue me from my failing?
Who else would offer His only Son?
Who else invites me to call Him Father?
Only a Holy God! Only my Holy God!**

**Come and behold Him – the One and the Only.
Cry out, sing holy; forever a Holy God.
Come and worship the Holy God!
Come and worship the Holy God!**

Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson
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*The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Heavenly Father,
you turned Saul from persecutor to preacher by the light of your Son. Shine that same light on us, that we may be transformed by your grace. Open our eyes and hearts to see Jesus anew, and transform us by your Spirit to live as instruments of witness, peace and love in the world. In the name of Christ we pray, amen,**

PSALM 30

*I will exalt you, Lord,
for you lifted me out of the depths
and did not let my enemies gloat over me.
Lord my God, I called to you for help,
and you healed me.*
*You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead;
you spared me from going down to the pit.*
*Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.*
*For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favour lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.*

*When I felt secure, I said,
'I shall never be shaken.'*
*Lord, when you favoured me,
you made my royal mountain stand firm;
but when you hid your face,
I was dismayed.*

*To you, Lord, I called;
to the Lord I cried for mercy:
'What is gained if I am silenced,
if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it proclaim your faithfulness?
Hear, Lord, and be merciful to me;
Lord, be my help.'*

*You turned my wailing into dancing;
you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.
Lord my God, I will praise you for ever.*

**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: First Reading: Acts 9:1-20 The conversion of Saul

Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' 'Who are you, Lord?' Saul asked. 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,' he replied. 'Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.' The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything. In Damascus there was a disciple named

Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, 'Ananias!' 'Yes, Lord,' he answered. The Lord told him, 'Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight.' 'Lord,' Ananias answered, 'I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name.' But the Lord said to Ananias, 'Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. I will show him how much he must suffer for my name.' Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord – Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here – has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptised, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.

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

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14 Worthy is the Lamb that was killed

Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: 'Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!' Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: 'To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!' The four living creatures said, 'Amen', and the elders fell down and worshipped.

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

GOSPEL: John 21:1-19 Jesus and the miraculous catch of fish; words to Peter

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

Afterwards Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: Simon Peter, Thomas (also known as Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee,

the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 'I'm going out to fish,' Simon Peter told them, and they said, 'We'll go with you.' So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. He called out to them, 'Friends, haven't you any fish?' 'No,' they answered. He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord!' As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, 'It is the Lord,' he wrapped his outer garment round him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred metres. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. Jesus said to them, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples dared ask him, 'Who are you?' They knew it was the Lord. Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. Jesus reinstates Peter When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?' 'Yes, Lord,' he said, 'you know that I love you.' Jesus said, 'Feed my lambs.' Again Jesus said, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He answered, 'Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.' Jesus said, 'Take care of my sheep.' The third time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' He said, 'Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.' Jesus said, 'Feed my sheep. Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.' Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, 'Follow me!'

After the reading

This is the gospel of the LORD.

Praise be to You, O Christ.

IT ONLY TAKES A SPARK

(Pass It On)

**It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love: Once you've experienced it,
You spread his love to everyone, You want to pass it on.**

**What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding;
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love: Once you've experienced it,
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring, You want to pass it on.**

**I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found;
You can depend on him, it matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain top: I want my world to know,
The Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.**

Kurt Kaiser

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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**

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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OFFERING PRAYER

**Lord Jesus, you turned Saul's life around with your call of grace. As you opened his eyes and changed his heart, transform us to see and know your purposes.
Use our offerings – and use us— to carry out your mission in the world.
In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Our Lord Jesus Christ lives and reigns as the victorious Lamb of God. Let us bring him our prayers, so that he may present them before the one who is seated on the throne of heaven.

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for appearing to your disciples after your resurrection, and for rescuing them from guilt and shame. Turn those who persecute you, like Saul, and restore those who deny you, like Peter. Nourish the new life you have given us so that, in all the difficulties we face as church, our faith may not fail but that we may feed and grow strong on your promises.

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

Protect your people from denying you by false belief and sinful living. Remove every obstacle that keeps us from showing others the glory of the resurrection and provide everything we need to feed those who hunger for the new world you are creating.

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

Bless your whole flock as it pursues your mission. Provide strength and wisdom to all pastors and teachers and guide all your people as they comfort and reassure each other, so that together we may feed those who hunger to hear your good news.

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

Thank you for blessing us with the changing seasons, and for rain and sunshine to make the crops grow. Continue to water the earth and protect it from fire, flood, disease and famine. Rescue it from wrongful exploitation - from greed and abuse. And nourish it with all it needs to be a good and fruitful home for its people and creatures.

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

Bless our parish and help us all to work together as members of one body for the benefit of all. Remove everything that is false in us and build us as a community of understanding and compassion so that we may feed those who hunger for acceptance and worth.

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

Lord, you choose as your own the sick and the sad, the lost and the lonely. Show us how to share each other's pain so that we may feed those who hunger for comfort and consolation. Meet the needs of those in special need in our community, as well those we personally know 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 all our Grace Places. Today we pray specially for GLPS students Allysia P in PB, Angus R in PS, Kolby M in 3M, Anais R in 4C, Callum R & Ivy O in 4P, Annabelle P & William R in 5C, Neriah P in 5T, Alice P, Arianna R & Madelyn P in 6J, Finley O in 6R and staff members Katy C & Ashleigh O. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love

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

Lord Jesus Christ, whenever we are discouraged in our work and sinful in our lives, rescue us and renew us again through your means of grace, so that we may love and serve you to our life's end and finally come with all your saints to worship you in heaven. For to you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, 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 the light of Christ shine into your life, just as it shone on Saul.
May the light of Christ shine into your life, just as it shone on Saul.
May the Spirit give you courage to love and serve as God calls you.
May the Spirit give you courage to love and serve as God calls you.
May you walk each day with new strength, following your Lord of grace.
May you walk each day with new strength, following your Lord of grace. Amen.

LIVING HOPE

**How great the chasm that lay between us How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written Jesus Christ my living hope**

**Who could imagine so great a mercy What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope**

**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

**Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me**

**Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus Yours is the victory whoa**

**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

**Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope**

Jesus Christ my living hope Oh God You are my living hope

Brian Johnson, Phil Wickham
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HYMNS & SONGS

First reading: Acts 9:1-6(7-20)

LHS

67 And can it be, that I should gain
159 O for a thousand tongues to sing

AT

131 Amazing grace

TIS

129 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)
209 And can it be, that I should gain

528 Christ, whose glory fills the skies
851 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

263 Singing all praises

210 O for a thousand tongues to sing
212 Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Second reading: Revelation 5:11-14

LHS

212 Lo, round the throne, a glorious band
436 Come, let us join our cheerful songs
454 Ye servants of God, your master proclaim
459 Worship, honour, glory, blessing

AT

145 What wondrous love is this
161 Majesty
163 Glory, halleluia

TIS

142 Glory be to God the Father
189 Glory to our boundless God
204 Come, let us join our cheerful songs
215 You servants of God

484 Blessed are the heirs of heaven
666 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
667 Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
794 What wondrous love is this

247 Alabare, alabare
443 Like an angel

237 Hail Redeemer, King divine
343 Nature with open volume stands
770 To him who sits upon the throne
772 Worship, honour, glory, blessing

Gospel: John 21:1-19

LHS

244 Lord, pour Thy Spirit from on high
246 Father, be Thy blessing shed
247 Thou who the night in prayer didst spend

AT

413 The Summons

TIS

451 Pour out your Spirit from on high

361 Let us ever walk with Jesus* G5
366 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult

509 You hear the lambs a-cryin'

589 Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult