



## **CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER**

**Sunday, 6 April 2025  
Fifth Sunday in Lent**



### **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**Almighty God,  
look in mercy on your family.**

**By your great goodness,  
guide and protect us forever in body and soul.  
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**

*Come, people of God, for the Lord has rolled away our shame and made us God's own!  
**We come to rejoice in God's faithfulness, for our Lord has led us to a place of blessing**  
Just as God provided for the people of Israel in the wilderness,  
so our Lord provides for us today.*

**We will feast on God's goodness and trust in the Lord's unfailing love!  
Let us worship the Lord, who brings us into the fullness of God's promises!  
With thankful hearts, we praise our God, who nourishes us now and forever!**

### **INVOCATION**

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

### **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, John Goss  
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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.**

## **BEHOLD OUR GOD**

**Who has held the oceans in His hands?  
Who has numbered every grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice:  
All creation rises to rejoice.**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;  
come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King – nothing can compare;  
come let us adore Him!**

**Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of His Words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;  
come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King – nothing can compare;  
come let us adore Him!**

**Who has felt the nails upon His hands,  
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal, humbled to the grave;  
Jesus, Saviour risen now to reign!**

**Behold our God seated on His throne;  
come let us adore Him!  
Behold our King – nothing can compare;  
come let us adore Him!**

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

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Faithful God,**  
you have taken away our shame and brought us into your grace. As you provided for Israel in the wilderness and in the promised land, provide for us now through Jesus, the bread of life. Help us trust in your care, rejoice in your salvation, and live as your people, sharing your love with the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **PSALM 32**

*Blessed is the one*  
**whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.**  
*Blessed is the one*  
**whose sin the Lord does not count against them  
and in whose spirit is no deceit.**

*When I kept silent,*  
**my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.**  
*For day and night*  
**your hand was heavy on me;  
my strength was sapped  
as in the heat of summer.**

*Then I acknowledged my sin to you  
and did not cover up my iniquity.*

*I said, 'I will confess  
my transgressions to the Lord.'*  
*And you forgave  
the guilt of my sin.*

*Therefore let all the faithful pray to you  
while you may be found;  
surely the rising of the mighty waters  
will not reach them.*

*You are my hiding-place;*  
**you will protect me from trouble**  
**and surround me with songs of deliverance.**

*I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;*  
**I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.**

*Do not be like the horse or the mule,*  
**which have no understanding**  
*but must be controlled by bit and bridle*  
**or they will not come to you.**

*Many are the woes of the wicked,*  
**but the Lord's unfailing love**  
**surrounds the one who trusts in him.**

*Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous;*  
**sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

**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: Joshua 5:9-12** The Passover at Gilgal, in the promised land

Then the Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.' So the place has been called Gilgal to this day. On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan.

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

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21** In Christ the new has come

So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32** The parable of the lost son

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

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering round to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, 'This man welcomes sinners, and eats with them.' Then Jesus told them this parable: Jesus continued: 'There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, "Father, give me my share of the estate." So he divided his property between them. 'Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 'When he came to his senses, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants." So he got up and went to his father. 'But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms round him and kissed him. 'The son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." 'But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found." So they began to celebrate. 'Meanwhile, the elder son was in the

field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. “Your brother has come,” he replied, “and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.” The elder brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, “Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!” “My son,” the father said, “you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.”

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

### **THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD**

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end,  
they are new every morning, new every morning,  
great is thy faithfulness, O Lord,  
great is thy faithfulness.**

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
his mercies never come to an end,  
they are new every morning, new every morning,  
great is thy faithfulness, O Lord,  
great is thy faithfulness.**

Edith McNeill  
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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**

## **JESUS, LEAD THOU ON**

**Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest be won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow calm and fearless;  
Guide us by Thy hand to our fatherland.**

**If the way be drear, If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us,  
Let not faith and hope forsake us,  
For though many a woe To our home we go..**

**When we seek relief From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring;  
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.**

**Jesus, still lead on, Till our rest be won;  
Heavenly leader, still directs us,  
Still support, control, protect us,  
Till we safely stand In our fatherland.**

**Jesu geh voran**

**Cento from Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinsendorf (1700-1760)**

**Tr. Jane Borthwick, 1846, alt.**



## OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and faithful God,

as you provided for Israel in the wilderness and in the land of promise, so you provide for us each day. We bring our offerings in gratitude, trusting that all we have comes from your hand. Bless our gifts to nourish others and further your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Our Lord received Mary's offering. Let us come before God our Father and offer our prayers for the world, knowing that he will hear us for Jesus' sake.*

Gracious heavenly Father, we offer you our thanks, praise and love through Jesus Christ our Lord, who gave himself for us. Thank you for your holy church which you sustain with your powerful, life giving word. Bless your church throughout the world that all your people may celebrate the coming days of holy week with true faith and devotion. Be especially with those who are preparing for baptism and confirmation this Easter.

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

Your Son accepted the service of Martha, the friendship of Lazarus, and the devotion of Mary: bless your people everywhere who serve you in all kinds of different ways:

- for those who serve in the church, as Bishops, pastors, church workers and lay people;
- for those who serve in the home, as parents and care-givers and home-makers;
- for those who serve in the workplace, as employers and employees;
- for students and school children who serve by learning for the future;
- for those who volunteer their services in the community;
- for those who offer friendship;
- for those who pray, fast, or give generously of their time and money;
- for those who befriend the disadvantaged;
- for those whose work is dangerous.

Bless the service of all your people, and assure them that you are well pleased with their work.

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

Speak to the consciences of those who plan some evil – show them that honesty is better than falsehood, and that peace is better than violence. Give to our political leaders and citizens alike a deep commitment to goodness and mutual well-being. Keep us all from the greed and false compassion of Judas.

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

Your Son drew close to Lazarus and raised him from the dead: be near all people who are close to death, and grant them faith in you. Strengthen all who are preparing for the death of a loved one, that they may make the most of the time left to them. And help all who work among the dying: the doctors, nursing staff, chaplains and volunteers who work in hospices and nursing homes.

*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 Joey F in PS, Caleb G in PW, Fredrick E in 1R, Isaiah G in 2M, Ethan M in 2N, Maxwell F in 2O, Hugh D in 3A, Gloria J in 4P, Arlo M in 4W, Charlotte E & Sophia M in 5N, Norah D in 5T, Samuel G in 6D and staff members Sarah P & Megan M. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

Heavenly Father, Mary honoured the Lord with her gift of perfume. May we honour you in our lives by honouring all who are in need; through Jesus Christ your Son, 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 the Lord remove your shame and fill you with peace.*  
**May the Lord remove your shame and fill you with peace.**  
*May the Lord strengthen you for all that lies ahead.*  
**May the Lord strengthen you for all that lies ahead.**  
*May the Lord provide for your every need, now and always.*  
**May the Lord provide for your every need, now and always. 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.  
Lord, 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.**

## HYMNS AND SONGS

### **First reading: Isaiah 43:16-21**

#### **LHS**

71 Come to Calvary's holy mountain  
282 Draw nigh, and take the body of  
the Lord

#### **AT**

137 I heard the voice of Jesus say

#### **TIS**

498 Draw near and take the body of our  
Lord  
569 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

306 I heard the voice of Jesus say  
347 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah  
739 When the king shall come again

585 I heard the voice of Jesus say  
653 This is a day of new beginnings

### **Second reading: Philippians 3:4b-14**

#### **LHS**

18 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates  
54 When I survey the wondrous cross  
75 We sing the praise of Him who died  
83 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
171 In the cross of Christ I glory  
331 My hope is built on nothing less

#### **AT**

206 As the deer pants  
271 For the bread that we have eaten

#### **TIS**

202 I know that my Redeemer  
219 Jesus comes with all his grace  
267 Lift up your heads, you mighty  
gates  
342 When I survey the wondrous cross  
347 We sing the praise of him who died

332 Thy works, not mine, O Christ  
352 Fight the good fight with all thy  
might  
361 Let us ever walk with Jesus  
786 In faith and hope and love

279 Into your death we go

349 In the cross of Christ I glory  
563 Let him to whom we now belong  
594 Fight the good fight with all your  
might  
605 I am alone, yet not alone  
628 In faith and hope and love

### **Gospel: John 12:1-8**

#### **LHS**

51 Let Thy blood in mercy poured  
377 Take my life, and let it be

#### **TIS**

599 Take my life, and let it be  
660 Myrrh-bearing Mary from Magdala  
came

385 With all my heart I love Thee, Lord

661 Woman in the night