

CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

Sunday, 13 July 2025
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**Lord God, everything is in your care.
Put away from us all things that are harmful,
and give us whatever is profitable for us.
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, all who are weary, all who wonder what lies ahead.
The Lord is our Shepherd; we shall not be in want.
Come with hearts stirred by hope, not troubled by fear.
In Christ, even the grave has lost its sting.
Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me."
He is the way, the truth, and the life—our hope in every unknown.*

INVOCATION

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

GOD FORGIVES

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

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**

**Jesus! the Name that charms our fears
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.**

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

**He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

**Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold, your Savior come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy!**

**My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim
and spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy Name.**

**Charles Wesley 1707-88
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LORD HAVE MERCY

(spoken)

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN

**Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love you well;
on the earth let all your people
speak your grace, your wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
mighty Father, heaven's king;
hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring.**

**Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away,
now with God in triumph seated -
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Savior, you are God alone
in the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three-in-One!**

Michael Perry

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The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Gracious God,
You are our Shepherd through the valley, our Comforter in sorrow, and our Hope
beyond the grave. In a world full of uncertainty, hold us steady in the promise of
Christ who has gone before us to prepare a place. Wipe away every tear, strengthen
our trust in your victory over death, and lead us with confidence along the way, the
truth, and the life — Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
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: Isaiah 25:6-9 – God's promise to swallow up death forever

On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine – the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. In that day they will say, 'Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.'

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

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:51-55 – The victory over death in Christ.

Listen, I tell you a mystery: we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: ‘Death has been swallowed up in victory.’ ‘Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?’

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

GOSPEL: John 14:1-6 – Jesus’ promise of preparing a place for us.

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’

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

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**

ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED

**All my hope on God is founded
All my trust He shall renew
He my guide through changing order
Only good and only true God unknown
He alone Calls my heart to be His own**

**Pride of man and earthly glory
Sword and crown betray His trust
All that human toil can fashion
Tower and temple fall to dust But God's power
Hour by hour Is my temple and my tower**

**Day by day our mighty giver
Grants to us His gifts of love
In His will our souls find pleasure
Leading to our home above Love shall stand
At His hand Joy shall wait for His command**

**Still from man to God eternal
Sacrifice of praise be done
High above all praises praising
For the gift of Christ His Son Hear Christ's call
One and all We who follow shall not fall**

MESSAGE

At this point you may wish to watch the Sermon.

For Church YouTube Channel ([click here](#))

For LCA Worship Resources ([click here](#))

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.

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

**Faithful God,
We bring these gifts in gratitude, for you are our Shepherd and our hope. Use them
to bring comfort, peace, and hope to others, until we dwell with you forever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray with thanksgiving to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints. Let us ask him to satisfy the needs of the church, the world and those in need.

Heavenly Father: thank you for your mercy toward us each day, and for sending Jesus to suffer and die in our place. Expose all self-righteousness and self-justification in the world, and humble us all to admit our sin and cling to Jesus as our only hope of eternal life.

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

We pray for the world and all people broken in mind, body and spirit. Do not abandon them but send them good neighbours to come to their aid. Move us to love our neighbours by feeling for their plight and crossing the road to help them.

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

We pray for the church and for all who've been wounded, ignored or excluded by the church. Do not close your eyes to their need but send them good neighbours to bind up their bleeding wounds and to pour on the ointment of your love. Move us to love our neighbours by embracing them with the love of Christ.

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

We pray for our country and for all people who teach others. Do not be silent in the face of ignorance and error but send good neighbours to speak the truth in love. Move us to love our neighbours by properly using both law and gospel in our conversation.

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

We pray for our community and our families, and for those who suffer trouble and grief, or who are sick and dying. Feel their pain dear Father, and send them good neighbours to comfort and give practical help. Move us to love our neighbours by spending time with them, inviting them into our homes, and sharing your mercy to us with them.

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

We pray for all travelling on the road of growth in the Christian faith. Teach them well, and send them the Good Samaritan of their souls to give them eternal life through faith in him. Make us all loving neighbours to those we know to be in special need, and whom we now name silently in our hearts...

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

Father, teach us to see your own dear Son in the face of all who suffer. May we be your instruments of love and healing in the world. 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.

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, your Shepherd, take care of you and give you peace.

May the Lord, your Shepherd, take care of you and give you peace.

May God fill your life with joy and hope that never ends.

May God fill your life with joy and hope that never ends.

May Jesus' promise of new life bring you comfort and strength.

May Jesus' promise of new life bring you comfort and strength. Amen.

LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS

**Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:**

**Be there at our waking and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:**

**Be there at our labours and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace:**

**Be there at our homing and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:**

**Be there at our sleeping and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.**

Jan Struther
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