



## **CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER**

**Sunday, 8 March 2026**

**Third Sunday in Lent**



### **A PRAYER FOR GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE**

**Gracious God, you call us from many places  
and many weeks into one holy moment.**

**Quiet our restless hearts and gather our scattered thoughts.**

**As you have promised, be present among us now—  
to speak your living Word, to renew our faith,  
and to shape us again by your mercy.**

**Amen.**

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

*Come to the well, all who thirst.*

**We come seeking the living water Christ alone gives.**

*Jesus meets us where we are, knowing our whole story.*

**We come with our need, our questions, and our hope.**

*The water he gives becomes a spring of eternal life.*

**We receive his grace with joy and trust.**

### **INVOCATION**

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

**Amen.**

### **GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

## AS THE DEER

As the deer pants for the water,  
so my soul longs after You.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.  
You alone are my strength and shield,  
to You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.

I want You more than gold or silver,  
only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy-giver  
and the apple of my eye.  
You alone are my strength and shield,  
to You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.

You're my friend and You are my brother  
even though You are a King.  
I love You more than any other,  
so much more than anything.  
You alone are my strength and shield,  
to You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
and I long to worship You.

Martin Nystrom.

Song No. #1431

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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.**

## GLORIFY YOUR NAME

**Father, we love You, we praise You, we adore You.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

**Glorify Your name, glorify Your name.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

**Jesus, we love You, we praise You, we adore You.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

**Glorify Your name, glorify Your name.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

**Spirit, we love You, we praise You, we adore You.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

**Glorify Your name, glorify Your name.**

**Glorify Your name in all the earth.**

Donna Adkins

Song #1383

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*The Lord be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Let us pray.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Gracious and seeking God,  
you wait for us at the wells of our lives and speak grace into our thirst,  
and truth into our longing. Pour into us the living water of Christ,  
So that what is weary may be renewed, what is hidden may be healed,  
and our lives may overflow with joyful witness to your mercy.  
In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**

## PSALM 95

*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.*

*For the Lord is the great God,  
the great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the depths of the earth,  
and the mountain peaks belong to him.  
The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;  
for he is our God  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.  
Today, if only you would hear his voice,  
'Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,  
as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,  
where your ancestors tested me;  
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.  
For forty years I was angry with that generation;  
I said, "They are a people whose hearts go astray,  
and they have not known my ways."  
So I declared on oath in my anger,  
"They shall never enter my rest."*

**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**

**Exodus 17:1-7** - The Israelites put God to the test

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, travelling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarrelled with Moses and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses replied, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?' But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?' Then Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord answered Moses, 'Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which

you struck the Nile and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink.’ So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites quarrelled and because they tested the Lord saying, ‘Is the Lord among us or not?’

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Romans 5:1-11** - While we were still sinners, Christ died for us

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us. You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him! For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

*After the reading*

*This is the Word of the LORD.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**John 4:5-42** - Jesus and the Samaritan woman

*Before the reading*

**Glory be to You, O LORD.**

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, ‘Will you give me a drink?’ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman.

How can you ask me for a drink?’ (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.’ ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?’ Jesus answered, ‘Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.’ The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.’ He told her, ‘Go, call your husband and come back.’ ‘I have no husband,’ she replied. Jesus said to her, ‘You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.’ ‘Sir,’ the woman said, ‘I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.’ ‘Woman,’ Jesus replied, ‘believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.’ The woman said, ‘I know that Messiah’ (called Christ) ‘is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.’ Then Jesus declared, ‘I, the one speaking to you – I am he.’ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, ‘What do you want?’ or ‘Why are you talking with her?’ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ‘Come, see a man who told me everything I’ve ever done. Could this be the Messiah?’ They came out of the town and made their way towards him. Meanwhile his disciples urged him, ‘Rabbi, eat something.’ But he said to them, ‘I have food to eat that you know nothing about.’ Then his disciples said to each other, ‘Could someone have brought him food?’ ‘My food,’ said Jesus, ‘is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, “It’s still four months until harvest”? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying “One sows and another reaps” is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.’ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, ‘He told me everything I’ve ever done.’ So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. And because of his words many more became believers. They said to the woman, ‘We no longer believe just because of what you said;

now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Saviour of the world.'

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

### **LENTEN STATEMENT OF FAITH**

**We believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, who calls us out of dust and sin to life in him.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who took our humanity, suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried, bearing our sin for our salvation. We believe that he rose from the dead, that we are forgiven and justified by grace alone, through faith alone, for his sake alone.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who draws us to repentance, creates faith through the Gospel, and leads us in the way of the cross. We believe in the one holy Church, the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD**

**Jesus, Saviour of the world,  
come in mercy, set us free.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

**By your cross and precious blood,  
you redeemed your people, Lord.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

**Your disciples cried for help;  
you were there and saved their lives.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

**Free us from the chains of sin  
so that we can sing your praise.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

**Come and live with us, O Lord;  
stay forever, Jesus Christ.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

**When you come in glory, Lord,  
make us to be one with you.  
We look to you to help and save us.**

David Schubert, Sue Collyer

### **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.*

### **I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Come unto Me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon My breast':**

**I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad;  
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one, stoop down, and drink, and live':  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's light;  
look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright':

I looked to Jesus, and I found in Him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar  
Public Domain

### OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,  
you met us at the well when we were thirsty,  
and in Jesus you have given us living water –  
a gift we could never earn and never exhaust.  
We offer our gifts in thanks for your mercy.  
Use us and what we give to share the good news  
of Christ with a thirsty world,  
that many may come to know him as Saviour,  
and worship him in spirit and in truth. Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*When God gave us the gift of his Holy Spirit in the living waters of baptism, he called us to pray to him as our Father. Let us pray to him in the name of Jesus for the church, the world, and those in need.*

Heavenly Father: thank you that Jesus gives us the living water of his saving word and holy baptism. Keep us close to him by staying close to the scriptures and the church.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all people preparing for baptism or confirmation currently. Lead them in your truth and give them confidence in confessing you before others.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bring justice to people who are wrongly treated by others. Curb all violence and crime and bring peace to all nations and communities.  
*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, teach our world the truth about marriage and the blessing you give through it. Give your grace and strength to all married couples and help them fulfill their marriage vows, that they would always seek to serve and forgive each other.

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

Supply all people with the water they need for daily life and remove disease and famine.

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

Bring healthy births to women expecting children. Comfort those who face the loss of loved ones and provide for all in need, including those known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

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

We pray for God's guidance and blessings for all members and friends of our congregation. Today we pray for Lyn & Keith; Sandra; Wendy, Noel & Jan; Val & Trev. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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 Sophie in Prep; Lilli & Logan in Year 2; Cooper & Sebastian in Year 3; Hugh, Charlie & Karlee in Year 4; Riley in Year 5; Abigail, Domonic, Norah & Mikayla in Year 6; and staff members Terri M & Kate A. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

Father, you give your Spirit to those who ask you. Pour out your Spirit on us to refresh us and bring us to life in you. 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 Jesus, the living water, refresh your hearts and lives.*

**May Jesus, the living water, refresh your hearts and lives.**

*May his grace free you from shame and fill you with peace.*

**May his grace free you from shame and fill you with peace.**

*May the Spirit send you out to share the good news with joy.*

**May the Spirit send you out to share the good news with joy. Amen.**

## JESUS OUR SAVIOUR

**Jesus our Saviour, of true joy the giver,**

**Alpha and Omega, lo He is here!**

**Mighty Creator, and strong to deliver,**

**God and yet man, He to us draweth near.**

**Christians, proclaim Him, the same now and ever:**

**Jesus our Saviour, of true joy the giver.**

**Jesus our Saviour as King ever reigneth;**

**Sing of His mercy, and praise ye His might.**

**Loving and gracious, to seek you He deigneth;**

**Open your hearts to your Lord with delight.**

**Guarding, upholding, His own He sustaineth:**

**Jesus our Saviour as King ever reigneth..**

**Jesus our Saviour is come, grace bestowing,**

**Coming in mercy each longing to still.**

**Life-giving waters for all are now flowing:**

**Come, ye who thirst; come and drink, ye who will.**

**Wondrous the mercy and love He is showing:**

**Jesus our Saviour is come, grace bestowing.**

Johann Ludwig Konrad Allendorf  
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