



CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

**Sunday, 5 May 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter**



A PRAYER FOR OPEN HEARTS AND EARS

**Lord Jesus Christ, Word made flesh,
open our ears to hear your voice and our hearts to trust your promises.**

**Where we are distracted, focus us;
where we are weary, strengthen us;**

where we are guarded, soften us by your grace.

Let your truth take root in us and bear fruit for the life of the world.

Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Come, people of God, to receive nourishment for your souls.

We come to taste and see that the Lord is good.

Come to Jesus, the living Stone, chosen and precious in God's sight.

In him, we are being built into a spiritual house.

Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people.

Once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious,
Binding all the Church in one:
Holy Zion's help for ever,
And her confidence alone.**

**To this temple, where we call thee,
Come, O Lord of hosts, today:
With Thy wanted loving kindness
Hear Thy servants as they pray:
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within these walls always**

**Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain of Thee for ever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.**

**Laud and honour to the Father,
Laud and honour to the Son,
Laud and honour to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one:
One in might and one in glory,
While unending ages run.**

John Mason Neale

Song #2702353

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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.

YOU ARE GLORIOUS

**You are glorious.
Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,
now exalted to the highest place of all,
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all,
Lord of all.**

**And we belong to you,
we love your name,
the name above all other names
and Your glory is upon us now
as we worship you,
King of Kings.**

**You are glorious.
Ev'ry knee shall bow to one victorious,
now exalted to the highest place of all,
Every tongue confess that you are Lord of all.
Lord of all.**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Gracious God,
you call us from darkness into your marvellous light
and name us your own.
Awaken in us a hunger for your living Word,
that we may grow in Christ, the cornerstone,
and be built into your dwelling.
Shape our lives into a song of praise,
that we may proclaim your mercy;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

PSALM 31:1-5,15,16

In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

Turn your ear to me,
come quickly to my rescue;
be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.

Since you are my rock and my fortress,
for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

Keep me free from the trap that is set for me,
for you are my refuge.

Into your hands I commit my spirit;
deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

My times are in your hands;
deliver me from the hands of my enemies,
from those who pursue me.

Let your face shine on your servant;
save me in your unfailing love.

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

Acts 7:55-60: The death of Stephen

But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.' At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he fell on his knees and cried out, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he fell asleep.

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

1 Peter 2:2-10: God's chosen people, a royal priesthood

Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, the living Stone – rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him – you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.' Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,' and, 'A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the message – which is also what they were destined for. But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

After the reading

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.



John 14:1-14: Jesus the way to the Father

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. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.' Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe

me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

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 there 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

COME AND PRAISE HIM, ROYAL PRIESTHOOD

**Came and praise Him, royal priesthood,
Come and worship, holy nation.
Worship Jesus, Our Redeemer.
He is precious, King of glory.**

**Came and praise Him, royal priesthood,
Come and worship, holy nation.
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**Came and praise Him, royal priesthood,
Come and worship, holy nation.
Worship Jesus, Our Redeemer.
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Andy Carter

Song # 26784

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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](#))

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.*

BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE

**Come set Your rule and reign
In our hearts again
Increase in us we pray
Unveil why we're made
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope
Like wildfire in our very souls
Holy Spirit come invade us now
We are Your church
We need Your pow'r in us**

**We seek Your kingdom first
We hunger and we thirst
Refuse to waste our lives
For You're our joy and prize
To see the captives' hearts released
The hurt the sick the poor at peace
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause
We are Your church
We pray revive this earth**

**Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray**

**Unleash Your kingdom's pow'r
Reaching the near and far
No force of hell can stop
Your beauty changing hearts
You made us for much more than this
Awake the kingdom seed in us
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ
We are Your church
We are the hope on earth**

**Build Your kingdom here
Let the darkness fear
Show Your mighty hand
Heal our streets and land
Set Your church on fire
Win this nation back
Change the atmosphere
Build Your kingdom here we pray**

**Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson, William Herron
Song #6186078
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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God,
you have called us out of darkness into your marvellous light
and made us your people.
Receive these gifts we bring in thanksgiving.
Build us up as living stones, that our lives
and offerings may be pleasing to you;
through Jesus Christ, our cornerstone, amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled.' Let us come to our heavenly Father with all our troubles and concerns and pray for the church and the world.

Lord, be with your whole church on earth, and the church in this country. Keep it faithful and let your message of forgiveness through Christ be heard and believed.

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

Bless the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand. We commend to you our Bishop, Paul Smith, our District Bishop, Mark Vainnika, and all our District Bishops. Uphold them in their office with true faith and a godly life.

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

Bless our country, Australia, and help those in authority to strive for harmony, honesty and justice. Remember our King, Charles, our Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, our Premier, David Crisafulli, those in our local government, and all who maintain law and order.

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

Guide our industry, our education, our arts, culture and leisure activities, our mass media, our science and technology. Be with the unemployed and the overworked, the sick and the aged, the poor, the needy and the lonely.

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

Protect our nation from hatred and violence, from arrogance, discord and confusion, and from all evil. Bring unity among the different peoples of our land: the Indigenous and the non-Indigenous people; those born here and those from overseas; the rich and the poor.

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

Help us to care for the land and protect its fragile environment, so that the blessings you give can be passed on to future generations.

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 Richard & Sharon; Paul; Dick & Fay; Naomi; Pearl. Please keep them strong in faith, active in love, and hopeful in all things.

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 Emrah, Chilli & Theodore in Prep; Jai in Year 1; Penelope, Rome & Harry in Year 2; Emir in Year 3; Judd, Koby & Miakoda in Year 4; Cemre in Year 5; Fynn & Evie in Year 6 and staff members Angela C & Linley W. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

Thank you, Father, that you hear us and care for us in all our needs. Open our eyes that we may see you in your Son Jesus Christ, 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 you be strong and secure in Christ, your sure foundation,
May you be strong and secure in Christ, your sure foundation,
May you hunger for God's Word and grow in God's grace.
May you hunger for God's Word and grow in God's grace.
May God's mercy in Jesus give you hope, peace, and faith.
May God's mercy in Jesus give you hope, peace, and faith. Amen.

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord:
she is his new creation
by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation,
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
the world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, 'How long?'
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation
and tumult of her war
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore,
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.

**Yet she on earth has union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won.**

**O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give to us the grace
like them, the meek and lowly,
in heaven to seek your face.**

**Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)
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