

CHURCH @ HOME SERVICE ORDER

**Sunday, 21 June 2026
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost**

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

In the wilderness, God heard the cry of Hagar and watched over her and her child.

God sees the forgotten, hears the hurting, and gives hope to the weary.

When fear and uncertainty surrounded them, God provided for them.

God is our refuge and provider in every season of life.

*Come, let us worship the Lord who is faithful in keeping promises
and compassionate to all people.*

We come to worship our God who hears, sees, and saves.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

GREETING ONE ANOTHER

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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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

**Gracious Father,
you heard the cries of Hagar and Ishmael in the wilderness
and provided for them in their need.
When we feel abandoned, afraid, or uncertain,
remind us that your eyes are upon us
and your mercy never fails; through Jesus
Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

PSALM 86:1-10,16,17

Hear me, Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord,
for I call to you all day long.
Bring joy to your servant, Lord,
for I put my trust in you.
You, Lord, are forgiving and good,
abounding in love to all who call to you.
Hear my prayer, Lord;
listen to my cry for mercy.
When I am in distress, I call to you,
because you answer me.
Among the gods there is none like you, Lord;
no deeds can compare with yours.
All the nations you have made
will come and worship before you, Lord;
they will bring glory to your name.
For you are great and do marvellous deeds;
you alone are God.
Turn to me and have mercy on me;
show your strength on behalf of your servant;
save me, because I serve you
just as my mother did.
Give me a sign of your goodness,
that my enemies may see it and be put to shame,
for you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

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

Genesis 21:8-21: God's promise to Hagar and Ishmael

The child grew and was weaned, and on the day Isaac was weaned Abraham held a great feast. But Sarah saw that the son whom Hagar the Egyptian had borne to Abraham was mocking, and she said to Abraham, 'Get rid of that slave woman and her son, for that woman's son will never share in the inheritance with my son Isaac.' The matter distressed Abraham greatly because it concerned his son. But God said to him, 'Do not be so distressed about the boy and your slave woman. Listen to whatever Sarah tells you, because it is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned. I will make the son of the slave into a nation also, because he is your offspring.' Early the next morning Abraham took some food and a skin of water and gave them to Hagar. He set them on her shoulders and then sent her off with the boy. She went on her way and wandered in the Desert of Beersheba. When the water in the skin was gone, she put the boy under one of the bushes. Then she went off and sat down about a bow-shot away, for she thought, 'I cannot watch the boy die.' And as she sat there, she began to sob. God heard the boy crying, and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven and said to her, 'What is the matter, Hagar? Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.' Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink. God was with the boy as he grew up. He lived in the desert and became an archer. While he was living in the Desert of Paran, his mother got a wife for him from Egypt.

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

Romans 6:1b-11: Dead to sin, but alive to Christ

What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning, so that grace may increase? By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Matthew 10:24-39: Do not be afraid; take up your cross and follow Christ

Before the reading
Glory be to You, O LORD.

‘The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household! ‘So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. ‘Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven. ‘Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law – a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.” ‘Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find 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**

BELOVED, IT IS WELL

**Be still, all shall be well:
God's ways are always right;
God's perfect love is over all,
though far above our sight.**

**Be still, all shall be well:
though deep and sore the smart,
the hand that wounds knows how to bind
and heal the broken heart.**

**Be still, all shall be well:
though sorrow clouds our way,
it only makes the joy more dear
that ushers in the day.**

**Be still, all shall be well:
the path that Jesus trod,
though often narrow, rough, and dark,
leads home to heaven and God.**

**George Washington Doane 1799-1859,
rev David Schubert (2001)**

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.*

HE WILL HOLD ME FAST

**When I fear my faith will fail Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold He must hold me fast**

**He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast**

**Those He saves are His delight Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost His Promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost He will hold me fast**

**He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast**

**For my life He bled and died Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight When He comes at last**

**He will hold me fast He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so He will hold me fast**

**Ada Ruth Habershon, Matthew Merker
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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious Father,
in loving kindness you care for us and help us. Receive our offerings and use them to bring hope, care, and blessing to those who are weary, forgotten, or in need. Teach us to trust in your faithful provision and to share generously from all that you have given us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

We have been given new life through our baptism into Christ Jesus. Let us come to God our Father in his name, praying for the church and for the world.

Heavenly Father: thank you for including us in your new world by our baptism, and for nurturing us in the faith as a sheer act of your forgiving grace. Give us strength to take up the cross of indifference and opposition to Christ from within ourselves and from people close to us.

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

Softening the hearts and minds of all who do not yet follow Jesus, and grow the faith of those who are lukewarm in their commitment to him. Help us witness in the best way possible to members of our family, and reassure us of your constant care.

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

Be with all those preparing for baptism or confirmation. Protect them from spiritual attack, and equip them for their journey in life.

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

We pray for the whole church, that it may acknowledge you before the world by all that it says and does. Protect those who are persecuted, and have mercy on the enemies of the church.

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

Send out labourers into your harvest fields, dear Father, and watch over those preparing to serve you as pastors. We also pray for congregations in the call process, that you will provide them with the help they need during their vacancy and give them patience as they wait for the pastor you have already prepared for them.

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

Have mercy on this poor world - on those torn apart by disaster and war; on those worn out by poverty and disease. Replace hatred and abuse with good will and peace. Thank you for blessing our country with good government, peace and stability. Bless our land so that people may be fed and clothed, with thanksgiving.

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

Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones, those who are dying and those who care for them. Prepare us all for death by firm faith in Christ. And meet the needs of those we know personally to be in want, and whom we now name silently 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 Merle; Mathias; Mal; Melissa; Lyn & Keith. 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 Poppie in Prep; Angus in Year 1; Thomas in Year 2; Keira & Elvy in Year 3; Aria, Grace, Alex & Raphael in Year 4; Mila, Malachi, Joshua & Callum in Year 5; Olivia in Year 6 and staff members Jo S & Bek B. Please provide for all their needs and guide them into your truth and love.

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

We thank you, Lord, that you are always more ready to listen to us than we are to pray. In your great mercy hear our prayers, 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 God who heard Hagar hear your prayers and care for you.

May God who heard Hagar hear your prayers and care for you.

May God who sees the forgotten remind you that you are never alone.

May God who sees the forgotten remind you that you are never alone.

May our God of promise guide you in love and give you peace.

May our God of promise guide you in love and give you peace. Amen.

HE WILL LISTEN TO YOU

**When the weight of the world crashes down on you,
he will listen to you; when the sky turns black
and your thoughts turn blue, God will listen to you.**

**He will listen to you, always listen to you;
he understands how his children feel,
he will listen to you.**

**When the river of tears cannot be contained,
he will listen to you; when you're all alone
in the pouring rain, he will listen to you.**

**He will listen to you, always listen to you;
he understands how his children feel,
he will listen to you.**

**When the light explodes on a world gone wrong,
he will listen to you; when your heart beats strong
with a grateful song, he will listen to you.**

**He will listen to you, always listen to you;
he understands how his children feel,
he will listen to you.**

Mark Heard