



Believe!

"My Lord and my God!"

(John 20.28)

Call to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation;
We will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD God is our strength and our song,
and he has become our salvation.

**Sing praises to the LORD,
for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.**

(Isa 12)

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Psalm 103

Praise God, my soul! With all my heart
Let me exalt his holy name.
Forget not all his benefits;
His praise, my soul, in song proclaim.
The LORD forgives you all your sins,
And heals your sickness and distress;
Your life he rescues from the grave,
And crowns you in his tenderness.

He satisfies your deep desires
From his unending stores of good,
So that, just like the eagle's strength,
Your youthful vigour is renewed.
The LORD is known for righteous acts
And justice to downtrodden ones.
To Moses he made known his ways,

His mighty deeds to Israel's sons.
The LORD is merciful and kind,
To anger slow, and full of grace.
He will not constantly reprove,
Or in his anger hide his face.
He does not punish our misdeeds,
Or give our sins their just reward.
How great his love—as high as heaven—
Towards all those who fear the LORD!

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Confession and Assurance

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;
According to your great compassion.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour,
first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or remain seated.

Prayer of Confession

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.
Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin!
For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.
Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.
Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.
Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.
Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.
For you will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it;
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.
Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (Ps. 51)**

Assurance of Pardon

“The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.” (Ps 103:8-14)

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

**Our feet have been standing within
your gates, O Jerusalem!**

Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound
firmly together, to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for
Israel, to give thanks to the name of the
Lord.

**There thrones for judgment were set,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! “May they
be secure who love you!

**Peace be within your walls and security
within your towers!”**

For my brothers and companions' sake I
will say, “Peace be within you!”

**For the sake of the house of the Lord
our God, I will seek your good.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and
to the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and
shall be forever, age after age. Amen!**

God Speaks to us through His Word

First Reading: 1 Peter 1:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: John 20.19-31

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Believe! (Mark Payne)

Response to God's Word

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall.

"Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Pro 3:9)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread. Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Almighty God,
we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood
of your dear Son, Jesus Christ.
Through him,
we offer you our souls and bodies
to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Amen.

See what a morning

See what a morning, gloriously bright
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded the grave-clothes
Tomb filled with light,
As the angels announce Christ is risen!
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,
Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives,
Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping: 'Where is He laid?
As in sorrow she turns from the empty
tomb;
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name:
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life
again!
The voice that spans the years,
Speaking life, stirring hope,
Bringing peace to us,
Will sound till He appears,
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,
Through the Spirit
Who clothes faith with certainty,
Honour and blessing, glory and praise
To the King crowned
With power and authority!
And we are raised with Him,
Death is dead, love has won
Christ has conquered;
And we shall reign with Him,
For He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!

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Benediction and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Sermon Outline

- Introduction
- Assured of Peace
- Equipped to Stand
- Believing unto Life