

## WELCOME

Today we are reminded of the people in our community who come from many different countries. For many of us, the tyranny of distance is great as we think of friends and relatives in distant countries who are also dealing with the challenges of this Pandemic. We are reminded of the countries who are our neighbours- countries who do not have the same level of medical support as we do. And we think of them and hope they will come through this time well.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Dito ako na bahon dito rin ako babangon,  
I am here to worship, here I arise.

*(Tagalog)*

On this day and in this place we come.

***We come to worship you, O God.***

We come as first people of the land, those who have lived here for a long time and those who have come in recent times.

Together we come to worship you and bring our praise and adoration.

So let us worship God.

## SONG      TiS 152 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eMY3ivdNzwE> words and music

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
God of glory, God of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you,  
opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
fill us with the light of day.
2. All your works with joy surround you,  
earth and heav'n reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you,  
centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
singing bird and flowing fountain  
call to praise you joyfully.
3. You are giving and forgiving,  
ever blessing, ever blest,

well-spring of the joy of living,  
ocean-depth of happy rest.  
You our Father, Christ our brother,  
all are yours who live in love;  
teach us how to love each other,  
lift us to your joy above.

*Tune AHB 92 Ode To Joy. Copyright. CCLI licensed) CCLI 237097*

## **PRAYER**

Great and merciful God,  
Your life is the source of the whole world's life;  
Your mercy is our only hope;  
Your eyes watch over all your creatures;  
You know the secrets of our hearts.  
By your life giving Spirit, draw us into your presence,  
That we may worship in the true life of your Spirit,  
With lives moved by your love,  
Through him who has led us to the heart of your love,  
Even Jesus Christ, our lord.

*(The church of South India)*

We need your healing, merciful God;  
***Give us true repentance.***

Some sins are plain to us;  
Some escape us,  
***Some we cannot face.***

Forgive us;  
Set us free to hear your word to us;  
***Set us free to serve you.***

That we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our  
Saviour Amen.

*(A New Zealand Prayer book)*

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

God is love and where there is love, there is God. The scripture tells us that God is faithful and just and If we confess our sins, God will forgive our sins. So hear the words of Jesus Christ: 'Your sins are forgiven! '

***Thanks be to God!***

**SONG      TiS 229 Jesus loves me**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LONkzLLNPmA> Music and lyrics

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
and the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
in his love we shall be strong.

*Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
Yes, Jesus loves me,  
The Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, 'Let them come to me.'

Jesus loves me still today,  
walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give  
light and love to all who live.

*Yes, Jesus loves me,...*

Traditional C.C.L.I. No. 237097

**READING**

**Luke 24: 13-35**

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked.

"About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be

sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus."

<sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They asked each other "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

<sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

<sup>36</sup> While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

<sup>37</sup> They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. <sup>38</sup> He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

<sup>40</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. <sup>41</sup> And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate it in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup> and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup> I am going to send you

what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

This is the word of the Lord,  
***Thanks be to God***

## **SERMON**

**SONG      Rescue- Lauren Daigle**

***This song is for reflection- as if it is a message to you from God in these difficult circumstances we all face.***

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MgkNB4939YM> Music and lyrics

You are not hidden  
There's never been a moment  
You were forgotten  
You are not hopeless  
Though you have been broken  
Your innocence stolen

I hear you whisper underneath your breath  
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you  
In the middle of the darkest night  
It's true, I will rescue you

There is no distance  
That cannot be covered  
Over and over  
You're not defenseless  
I'll be your shelter  
I'll be your armor

I hear you whisper underneath your breath  
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you  
In the middle of the darkest night  
It's true, I will rescue you  
I will never stop marching to reach you

In the middle of the hardest fight  
It's true, I will rescue you

I hear...

Source: [LyricFind](#)

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God of Creation,  
You are the God of all compassion and comfort. We thank you that you listen to our prayers. We pray today for our world, our nation, our city and our church as the Coronavirus spreads.

Please bring help to all our communities according to their needs. Heal those afflicted and strengthen all who have the responsibility for care. In your mercy, please provide a cure and give wisdom to those seeking to develop a vaccine for this condition.

We pray, too, for ourselves. Enable us to walk by faith. Help us to be careful and wise in taking whatever precautions are necessary to limit and contain the spread of this virus. Strengthen us to remain calm while vigilant; responsible citizens seeking the welfare of others above ourselves.

At times of uncertainty and anxiety, help our world to look to security in your Son, Jesus Christ. And give courage to Christians as we point others to the One in whom there is always hope.

Help us to be mindful of those who are struggling, encouraging for those who are giving of themselves and supportive of those who are making difficult decisions in difficult times. May your will be done in our lives and your love be shared with all whom we pray for.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

...And now, let us join with the Christians of all nations in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples as we say

***Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
As we forgive those who sin against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever, Amen.***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **OFFERING**

Once again we come with what we have- willingly and regularly. Please take these gifts and bless them just as you bless us in and through Jesus, in whose name we pray, Amen.

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of the Lord be with you  
***And also with you***

### **SONG      TiS 230 It passes knowledge**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zwfnJ9Xkj18> words and music

It passes knowledge, that dear love of thine,  
my Saviour Jesus; yet this soul of mine  
would of thy love, in all its breadth and length,  
its height and depth and everlasting strength,  
know more and more.

It passes telling, that dear love of thine,  
my Saviour Jesus; yet these lips of mine,  
would fain proclaim to sinners far and near  
a love which can remove all guilty fear  
and love beget.

It passes praises, that dear love of thine,  
my Saviour Jesus; yet this heart of mine,  
would sing that love, so full, so rich, so free,  
which brings a rebel sinner, such as me,  
nigh unto God.

At last, when Jesus face to face I see,

when at his lofty throne I bow the knee,  
then of his love, in all its breadth and length,  
its height and depth and everlasting strength,  
my soul shall sing.

Words Mary Shekleton/

## **BENEDICTION**

May God's blessing be upon you-  
Not just when you think about it,  
Not just when you need it,  
But every moment of everyday.  
Know that God is with you, Father Son and Holy Spirit  
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of us all.