

WELCOME

As we come to worship, we are reminded that soon we will be able to meet in person again. We are reminded that worship is not just about our individual relationship with God but also our relationship with others. As we come close to God, we also come closer to each other.

May this Mother's Day be special to all of us- whether we be a mother or grandmother, whether we have been like a mother to others or if imply thank God for our own mothers.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come to Christ, the one who has gone before us to prepare a place for us
Let us be built into a spiritual home for all,

Welcoming all,
caring for all

Our God is a rock and a fortress.
So let us come and praise God, the foundation of our faith.

Let us worship God.

SONG **Adapted from TiS 162 Thank you for giving me the morning**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yiu-1YX1WvE> words and music- note some of the words are different on the clip.

Thank you for giving me the morning,
thank you for every day that's new,
thank you that I can know my worries
I can take to you.

Thank you for all my friends and helpers,
thank you for people everywhere,
thank you for showing me, Lord Jesus,
how to help and care.

Thank you for times of working, playing,
thank you for all that I can do,
thank you for all that's bright and cheerful,
and for music too.

Thank you for comfort in my sadness,
thank you for all who understand,
thank you that your hand holds and leads me,
everywhere I am.

Thank you for speaking to us, Jesus,
thank you for telling us you care
thank you, O Lord you came among us
bread and wine to share.

Thank you that you're so good and loving.
thank you that I am filled with you,
thank you, you make me feel so glad and
thankful as I do.

Words and music Martin Gotthard Schneider (trans. David Arthur Schubert) C.C.L.I. No. 237097

PRAYER

God of refuge and strength, you bless our lives with eternal loving kindness, holding us, guiding us, delivering us from evil. As we gather here and in different places as your people, we pray that our worship will reflect your divine love.

We offer this time of worship with the remembrance of Easter still filling us with joy and with the anticipation of Pentecost firing our devotion. We are reminded of the words of Jesus "I am the way, and the truth and the life". In him we know you can through him we can come close to you.

Let our praise and thanksgiving for all you have done truly resound within our hearts and our homes,
within these walls and beyond.

We give you thanks for all who have mothered us, loved us, guided us and helped us be who we are today. Bless all mothers, grandmothers and those who act as mothers to others.

On this autumn day, with the golden leaves falling and the crisp morning air invigorating our bodies, we come in the name of the risen Christ to worship you.

Yet we know that in one sense our efforts are doomed to failure. This world will never be big enough to contain the thanks and praise that is due for your saving deeds in Jesus of Nazareth.

Nor will the church be ever joyful enough to rightly celebrate the blessings you have lavished upon your called people.

Nevertheless we approach you with sincerity, knowing that you understand our shortcomings and are not in the least put off by our inadequate love and praise. O most wonderful God, let there be at least one second when we get it right today!

(Silence)

Forgive us loving God
Help us to be your forgiven people

Stand us solid on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ this day and all days, ***Amen***

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you might proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.” *1 Peter 2: 9,10.*

Hear then Jesus’ words of forgiveness

Your sins are forgiven
Thanks be to God!

MOTHERS’ DAY POEM

A Mother...

When you’re a child she walks before you,
To set an example.
When you’re a teenager she walks behind you
To be there should you need her.
When you’re an adult she walks beside you
So that as two friends you can enjoy life together.

Author Unknown

SONG TiS 644 Safe in the shadow of the Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPBbpYlgN9c> words and music

Safe in the shadow of the Lord
beneath his hand and power,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
my fortress and my tower.

My hope is set on God alone
though Satan spreads his snare,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
to keep me in his care.

From fears and phantoms of the night,
from foes about my way,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
by darkness as by day.

His holy angels keep my feet
secure from every stone;
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
and unafraid go on.

Strong in the everlasting Name,
and in my Father's care,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
who hears and answers prayers.

Safe in the shadow of the Lord,
possessed by love divine,
I trust in him,
I trust in him,
and meet his love with mine.

Words Timothy Dudley-Smith/Music Norman Warren C.C.L.I. No. 237097

READINGS

Acts 7: 54-60

⁵⁴When they heard these things they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶"Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him

out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

John 14: 1-14

¹⁴ "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God believe also in me. ² 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? ³ 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. ⁴ You know the way to the place where I am going."

⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

⁹ 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'? ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

SERMON

SONG TiS 457 The Church's One foundation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jotNbcFelX4> words and music

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.

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,
on high may dwell with Thee.

Words Samuel J. Stone/Music Samuel S. Wesley C.C.L.I. No. 237097

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let it never be said, loving God, that your church neglected to both pray for and serve the world in its multiplicity of needs.

Although we cannot do everything
enable us to do some things.

In this changed world of the Covid 19 we pray for all who are doing what they can to make a difference. We pray for the countless staff reaching out to care for those who are ill, for those who are in need and for all the support systems which need to be kept in place. We pray for the families of those who are ill- waiting and wondering whether

they will survive. We also pray for the families of the thousands of people who have died. May they find your comfort in their distress.

For the oppressed and forgotten people of our nation and world we pray, that the grace of Christ will, through his servants, come to their aid.

Although we cannot do everything

enable us to do some things.

For the unemployed and the unemployable, those who are grossly overworked and underpaid, and all who have seen the results of years of toil collapse around them, we pray. We pray for all the businesses which have been affected by the lockdown, for the thousands who became unemployed overnight and for the struggle that lies ahead in rebuilding businesses and people's lives.

Although we cannot do everything

enable us to do some things.

For the disinherited indigenous people of this and other countries, for their health and education, for the fostering of their culture, and for their leaders, and for those non-aborigines who work with them for justice and reconciliation, we pray.

Although we cannot do everything

enable us to do some things.

For the frail and the sick in this congregation and beyond, for the handicapped and those who suffer constant pain, for those dying slowly and all who care for them, for the bereaved and loving friends who reach out to console them, we pray. We pray for Heather and her family, for Rosemary and Peter and their families and for others who are coming to terms with the death of someone they love. May you bring them courage to face the future, peace to endure the present and the everlasting comfort of your Holy Spirit.

Although we cannot do everything

enable us to do some things.

Loving God, by your adoption we are your family; like children we pray to you, asking for the blessing of your hands laid upon us, that we may with courage and compassion, work with the other members of your family with humility and good humour.

Through Christ Jesus our Brother and Saviour.

Amen!

(Prayers adapted from late Rev Bruce Prewer)

OFFERING

What we bring is so small in comparison to what we would like to bring. Yet you look at our hearts and know our desire to serve you in all that we have. We ask for your blessing upon these gifts not in our name, but in the powerful and wonderful name of Jesus.

Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you

And also with you

COMMUNION

During Covid 19 it is not possible for us to meet together as a community and to share in communion. The bread and wine that we usually share may be different. In the time of Jesus, bread and wine were part of every meal. For us, we may have other elements that we have so whether it be wine or grape juice or water, we know that God is with us and God blesses what we bring.

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

It is right that we should always give thanks to you, O God for making your love evident since the very beginning of time when you spoke the word which brought the world into being.

We give thanks that you are not a distant God,
But one prepared to respond to the cries of those
seeking refuge and strength in times of trouble.
You eased their fears by speaking words
of hope and justice to them through the prophets.

You communicated your love anew
by entering our history in the person of Jesus Christ.
He spoke words of healing and wholeness and love;
love - which like yours - is unending and unconditional.
And so, with all the company of heaven and earth
we rejoice before you and praise your holy name saying:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

And so, O God, we give thanks that you gave your Son Jesus Christ,
to be for us the way, the truth, and the life.

At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit came upon him
declaring him to be your beloved Son.
With your Spirit within him he resisted temptation;
proclaiming justice to all peoples, good news to the poor,
release to the captives, sight for the blind,
and liberty for those who are oppressed.
He emptied himself of self-serving power,
and filled with the empowering love of your Spirit,
he loved people to the uttermost limits of love,
giving himself over to death to defeat the power of evil.

On that never-to-be-forgotten night, the night of his betrayal,
as he sat at the table with his friends, he took bread, gave you thanks,
broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you."
When supper was over, he took the cup, gave you thanks,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this all of you; this is my blood, poured out for you and for all,
for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

On that never-to-be-forgotten day when you raised him from the dead,
he was recognised by his disciples in the breaking of the bread,
and in the power of your Holy Spirit your people have continued
in the breaking of the bread and in prayer.
When we eat this bread and drink from this cup
we experience anew the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ .

Remembering his death and resurrection, and his promise to be with us
always, we pray that you will send the power of your Holy Spirit upon
us and upon these gifts, blessing this sharing of bread and wine, Christ's
life in us. Send us as your witnesses into all the world, empowered by
your Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord in whose name
we are bold to pray

***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.***

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
The gifts of God for the people of God

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please take and eat and drink what you have knowing that God has blessed it just as God had blessed you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we praise, worship and adore you for the food received at your table. You have sent your Holy Spirit among us, to make our eating and drinking here a memorial of our Lord Jesus Christ. We go from here, strengthened, refreshed, and empowered by your Spirit to make our living and working, our loving and doing and thinking, a true and joyful memorial of him. We look to that day when, with the great company of witnesses that surround us, we may eat and drink and be glad with him in the glory of your kingdom. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SONG Great is Thy faithfulness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ErwiBz1QA4o> Words and music

Great is Thy faithfulness O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been thou forever will be
*Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
And all I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

*Great is Thy faithfulness, Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord every morning new mercies I see
And all I have needed Thy hands hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness,
Great is Thy faithfulness*

*Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me
So faithful too me*

Words Thomas Obadiah Chisolm /Music Willam Marion Runyan C.C.L.I. No. 237097

BENEDICTION

This service is ended. The larger service begins.
Go on your separate paths never forgetting the treasure you hold in trust

The nurturing, fatherly love of God always hold you in strong, everlasting arms.
The costly, brotherly love of Christ ever walk beside you and deliver you from all evil.
The dependable, motherly love of the Spirit ever enfold you with holy warmth.
This day and all days, Amen.