



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). In God's sovereignty, God has allowed other groups to migrate to these shores. We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now.

Cantor's Welcome

Cantor: Thank you for joining our Service today as we celebrate the fifth Sunday in the season of Epiphany. I invite you to stand to sing our opening Hymn ...

Opening Song: I want to walk as a child of the light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus.

*In him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
and show me the way to the Father.

In him there is no ...

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
we shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]

In him there is no ...

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Minister's Welcome

Open our lips, O Lord; **and we shall declare your praise.**
O God, make speed to save us. **O Lord, make haste to help us.**
Glory to God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.
The splendour of Christ shines upon us. **The Lord's name be praised.**

Sentence

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles. (Isaiah 40:31)

Prayer of Approach

Deacon: Let us prepare our hearts for worship,

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

The Gloria

Let us join in the angels' song,

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you; we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Saving God our heavenly Father, whose Son, Jesus Christ, healed the sick and brought wholeness of body and mind: inspire us, his disciples, so that we may constantly proclaim his gospel by our words, and through the anointing of the Holy Spirit, minister Christ's saving power to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading is from the book of Isaiah chapter 40 commencing at verse 21:

²¹Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood since the earth was founded? ²²He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in. ²³He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing. ²⁴No sooner are they planted, no sooner are they sown, no sooner do they take root in the ground, than he blows on them and they wither, and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff. ²⁵"To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. ²⁷Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Hear the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

The Psalm of the day is number 147 verses 1-11

¹Praise the LORD.

How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

²The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the exiles of Israel.

³He heals the broken-hearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name.

⁵Great is our Lord and mighty in power; -his understanding has no limit.

⁶The LORD sustains the humble but casts the wicked to the ground.

⁷Sing to the LORD with grateful praise; make music to our God on the harp.

⁸He covers the sky with clouds;

he supplies the earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills.

⁹He provides food for the cattle and for the young ravens when they call.

¹⁰His pleasure is not in the strength of the horse,

nor his delight in the legs of the warrior;

¹¹the LORD delights in those who fear him, who put their hope in his unfailing love.

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.

The second reading is from the Apostle Paul's first book of Corinthians, chapter 9 commencing at verse 16.

¹⁶For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make full use of my rights as a preacher of the gospel. ¹⁹Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

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

Gospel Song: May the Mind of Christ my Saviour

1 May the mind of Christ, my Saviour,
live in me from day to day,
by His love and power controlling
all I do and say.

2 May the word of God dwell richly
in my heart from hour to hour,
so that all may see I triumph
only through His power.

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3 May the peace of God my Father
rule my life in everything,
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

4 May the love of Jesus fill me
as the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self denying: this is victory.

5 May I run the race before me,
strong and brave to face the foe,
looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

Hearing the Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, chapter 1 commencing at verse 29. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they immediately told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-

possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was. ³⁵Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!". ³⁸Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹So he travelled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon: Are you passing the tests God gives you?

Hymn: In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live.

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3. There in the ground, His body lay
Light of the world, by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave, He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

The Prayer of the Week

Faithful Father, who gave your only begotten Son to take upon himself the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross: give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers for the World and Our Community

The intercessor on the roster will prepare prayers for:

A prayer for the world ... A prayer for all in authority ... A prayer for the church ...

A prayer for our community ...

Let us pray together,

Thank you, Father, for your promise to not only hear our prayers, but to grant that what we have asked through faith we receive in the name of your Son Jesus. Amen.

We conclude by praying as our Saviour taught us:

**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.

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Deacon:

Jesus said: Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Jesus' invitation is to all who are truly repentant of their sins and are in love and reconciliation with their neighbours. Those, Christ invites, must intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God and walk in his holy ways. To Christ's holy table of fellowship, he invites all who come in faith, to partake of his body and blood and in so doing, are strengthened and comforted.

Confession and Promise of Forgiveness

But first, let us make a humble and surrendered confession of our sins to our loving and forgiving Father.

**Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have broken your holy laws
and have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son, who died for us, forgive us, cleanse us and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Minister will declare the promise of forgiveness:

Almighty God our heavenly Father, in your great mercy you have promised forgiveness to all who are truly repentant and sorry of their sins. Therefore, you who have placed your faith and trust in Christ, know that your sins are forgiven. You have been set free to live as examples of God's generous grace and kindness. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

Let us, as God's forgiven and accepted people, exchange signs of peace and reconciliation with each other.

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Thanksgiving and Communion

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 thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting you alone are God.

You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity and made a covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn,

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

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.

In his baptism and in his table fellowship he took his place with sinners.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who were oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’

When supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, saying,

‘Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’

We eat this bread and drink this cup **to proclaim the death of the Lord.**

We do this until he returns. **Come, Lord Jesus!**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine, and grape juice. May they be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world, those redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet, joining in their eternal praise:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive praise and honour
and glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion

We who are many are one body in Christ. **For we all share in the one bread.**

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

Communion Song: Make me a Channel of your Peace

1. Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

2. Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness ever joy.
Oh, Master grant ...

3. Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving of ourselves that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life
Oh, Master grant ...

2nd Communion Song: Beauty for Brokenness

1. Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering,
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset,
your kingdom increase!

*God of the poor
friend of the weak
give us compassion we pray
melt our cold hearts
let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

4. Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned,
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.

God of the poor

2. Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsman,
trade for their skills;
land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak,
voices to plead the cause,
of those who can't speak.

3. Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary,
freedoms to share,
peace to the killing-fields,
scorched earth to green;
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

God of the poor

Lighten our darkness
breathe on this flame
until your justice
burns brightly again
until the nations
learn of your ways
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise

God of the poor

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Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

You have given yourself to us, Lord. **Now we give ourselves for others.**

Your love has made us a new people; **As a people of love we will serve you with joy.**

Your glory has filled our hearts. **Help us to glorify you in all things. Amen.**

The Benediction and Blessing

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: There's a spirit in the Air

1. There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world!'

2. Lose your shyness, find your tongue,
tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!

3. When believers break the bread,
when a hungry child is fed,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

4. Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!

5. When a stranger's not alone,
where the homeless find a home,
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.

6. May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!

7. There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.'

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