

## A Service of the Word

*The greeting:*

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

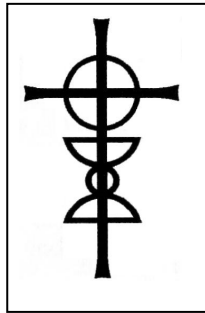
*Introductory sentence:*

Praise our God, all you his servants:  
**those who fear him, both small and great.**

*Notices*

*A prayer of preparation:*

Almighty God,  
your Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence.  
Give us new hearts and constant wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



*We **stand** for our opening hymn*

*We **sit or kneel** for our confession:*

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:  
**Father,**  
**we have sinned against heaven and against you.**  
**We are not worthy to be called your children.**  
**We turn to you again.**  
**Have mercy on us,**  
**bring us back to yourself**  
**as those who once were dead**  
**but now have life through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*The absolution:*

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse *us* from *our* sins,  
and restore *us* in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We **stand** to declare our praise:*

Now that we have been put right with God through faith,

**we have peace with God through  
our Lord Jesus Christ.**

He has brought us by faith into the grace of God.

**We rejoice in the hope of sharing God's glory.**

This hope does not deceive us:

**God has poured his love into our hearts  
by the gift of his Spirit.**

*We remain **standing** to say these verses from Psalm 46:*

The Lord is with us, he is our stronghold;

God will help at the break of day.

**The Lord is with us, he is our stronghold;**

**God will help at the break of day.**

God is our refuge and strength,  
ready to help whenever we are in trouble:

**God will help at the break of day.**

We will not fear, even if the earth shakes,  
and the mountains topple into the sea:

**God will help at the break of day.**

Come now and look at the works of the Lord,  
the awesome things he has done on earth:

**God will help at the break of day.**

Be still and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations;

I will be exalted in the earth:

**God will help at the break of day.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord is with us, he is our stronghold:**

**God will help at the break of day.**

*We remain **standing** for the collect, the church's special  
prayer for today:*

Faithful Lord,

whose steadfast love never ceases

and whose mercies never come to an end:

grant us the grace to trust you

and to receive the gifts of your love,

new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We **sit** for our Bible reading*

*At the end:* This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

*We **stand** for our second hymn*

*We remain **standing** for our Gospel reading*

*The reading is announced:* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*At the end of the reading:* This is the Gospel of Christ

**Praise to you, O Christ**

*We **sit** for the sermon*

*After a moment of reflection following the sermon, we **stand** for the affirmation of faith:*

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,**

**from whom every family**

**in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,**

**who lives in our hearts through faith,**

**and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,**

**who strengthens us**

**with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*We remain **standing** for our offertory hymn*

*We **sit or kneel** for our prayers of intercession*

*Our response may be:*

...Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

*At the conclusion of our prayers, we pray:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*The Lord's Prayer:*

Let us pray for the coming of God's kingdom

in the words 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*We **stand** for a prayer of blessing:*

May the love of the Lord Jesus  
draw you to himself,  
the power of the Lord Jesus  
strengthen you in his service,  
the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts;  
and the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*We remain **standing** for our closing hymn*

*A closing prayer:*

God of our salvation,  
you have restored us to life,  
you have brought us back again into your love  
by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ.  
Continue to heal us,  
as we go to live and work  
in the power of your Spirit,  
to your praise and glory. **Amen.**

*The sending out:*

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