

Preparing for Worship Today

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude J des Prez, *In te Domine speravi* [psalm 71]

The Gathering of the People of God

To be in the presence of God is humanity's purpose and destiny. The whole Bible is concerned with humanity's creation for, shrinking from, restoration to, and preparation for being in the presence of God. The whole of the Christian life is training for, anticipating, longing for, practicing, and enjoying the presence of God. The name we give to consciousness of being in the presence of God is prayer.

SAMUEL WELLS

Processional

If you are able, please stand as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space.

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Come, worship the Lord,

**the strong rock
and safe place;**

For the Lord is our hope,

our confidence since the beginning

(Psalm 71.3,5)

Prayer of invocation

Hymn 101 Come, you people

1. Come, you people, come adore him
God in Holy Trinity,
God the Father, Son and Spirit,
ever blessed unity.

2. All your glory, God almighty,
to the Son and Spirit given,
ere upon the world's creation
dawned the newborn light of heaven:

3. holy, holy, we adore you
one in power, in nature one;
God the Father, God the Spirit,
God the co-eternal Son.

4. By your Son the wide creation
rose where chaos held its sway;
by the Spirit, God Almighty
swept eternal night away.

5. Son, the Father's love revealing,
Son, through whom the Spirit came,
blessed Godhead! endless glory
be to your exalted name!

John Brownlie, 1859-1925 (alt.)

Public Domain

From God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace and love with faith

be to you all

And also with you.

cf. Ephesians 6:23

With the Children

The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

Jeremiah 1:4-10 *Before I formed you in the womb I knew you*

Psalms 71:1-6 *You, O Lord, are my hope, my trust* PCS 71vv1-6 only

Organ, then cantor, then all together:



My tongue will pro - claim your right-eous-ness, O Lord.
Copyright 1982 by James E. Barrett in *The Psalms*.

The cantor sings the verses, punctuated by the congregational refrain

Genesis 1:1-5 *The void and the deep*

Luke 4.21-30 *Do here also what you have done elsewhere*

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Preaching of the Word

*The sermon text will normally be available
after worship and online*

A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching

Prayer of Confession



Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Declaration of Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:
Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Doxology



Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
A - men. A - men. A - - - men.

The Peace

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

Affirmation of faith: God is with us

*We are not alone,
we live in God's world.*

*We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.*

We trust in God.

*We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.*

*In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.*

*The United Church of Canada,
General Council 1968, alt. 1998*

The Visible Word: Eucharist

LITBIT: The Eucharist is a mystery not because it is mysterious, but because it is a sign of God's secret purpose, which is to unite all things in Christ. In the Eucharist we celebrate that the mess of human history, with its violence and sin, its wars and genocides, is somehow, in ways that we cannot now understand, on its way to the kingdom. It is God's will that we be gathered into unity, reconciled with each other. And so we begin the Eucharist asking the forgiveness of our brothers and sisters, the angels and the saints, the whole vast community of the kingdom. It is a sign that we are willing to be gathered into God's peace with the rest of creation.

TIMOTHY RADCLIFFE

Hymn 499 Lord Jesus, joy of loving hearts

1. Lord Jesus, joy of loving hearts,
true fount of life, our lives sustain,
from any bliss that earth imparts
we turn unfilled to you again.
2. Your truth unchanged has ever stood,
you save all those who on you call,
to those yet seeking you are good,
to those who find you, all in all.
3. We taste you, Lord, the living bread,
and long to feast upon you still,
we drink of you, the fountainhead,
and thirst our souls from you to fill.
4. For you our restless spirits yearn,
whatever comes, until the last,
glad when your presence we discern,
blest when our faith can hold you fast.

5. For ever, Jesus, with us stay,
 make all our moments calm and bright,
 chase the dark night of sin away,
 shed on this world your holy light.

*Anon., Latin, 12th cent.
 tr. Ray Palmer 1808–87 alt.
 Public Domain.*

(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)

The 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.

(The prayer continues...)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full of your glo - ry, ho - sa - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na - in the high - est!

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r 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!

Hosanna in the highest!

(The prayer continues...)

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

(The prayer continues...)

Bless - ing and hon - our, glo - ry and pow'r are yours for - e - ver and ev - er, are yours for - e - ver and ev - er.

Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r

are yours forever and ever,

are yours forever and ever.

(The prayer continues...)

The Lord's Prayer

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 for ever. Amen.

(The people sit)

The Breaking of the Bread

...The gifts of God for the people of God....

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on
 us, have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
 have mercy on us, have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
 have mercy on us, have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.***

The Communion

The United Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.

After the invitation, and commencing from the front rows, please come forward in single file to the table, where you will be offered the bread at one point and the wine (in communion glasses only) at a second point. The wine has been prepared with as much COVID-19 precaution as practicable, and the celebrant and wine-server have sanitised their hands prior to the distribution. The common cup will only be used by the celebrant

If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive the element(s), please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.

Prayers of the People

(Names for inclusion in the prayers may be recorded in the book in the narthex)

Offering

Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 107 Sing praise and thanksgiving

1. Sing praise and thanksgiving, let all creatures living
 now worship their maker with gladness and song;
 all glory and honour we come to him bringing:
 O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!
2. Our lives of his making he brings to their waking;
 in darkness he held us in his gracious care,
 now into the light we are called from our sleeping:
 O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!
3. Lord, frame our desiring to do your requiring,
 that unto your glory be all that we do;
 and where we have faltered, give strength and give healing:
 O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!

*Paul Gerhardt 1607-76
 tr. Margaret Barclay (1951)
 adapted by Colin Alexander Gibson 1933-
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Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude J-B Fasolo, [Variations over] Veni creator spiritus

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