

## *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** JS Bach, *Liebster Jesu* [TIS 437]

### *The Gathering of the People of God*

**Sung Processional** (TIS 390, selected verse)

*We stand to sing after the cantor introduces the refrain, and the Scriptures are brought in the worship space:*

Refrain

*Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name.*

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth;  
he is the king of creation.

*Refrain*

*Donald E. Fishel; Words and music © 1973 The Word of God.  
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**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)*

Let us worship the Lord...

**Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn** 437 Blessed Jesus, at your word

1. Blessèd Jesus, at your word  
we are gathered all to hear you;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred  
now to seek and love and fear you;  
by your gospel pure and holy,  
teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

2. All our knowledge, sense and sight  
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,  
till your Spirit breaks our night  
with your beams of truth unclouded;  
you alone to God can win us,  
only you work good within us.

3. Glorious Lord, yourself impart,  
light of light from God proceeding;  
open lips and ears and heart,  
help us by your Spirit's leading;  
hear the cry your church now raises;  
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.

*Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-84  
Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78 (alt.)  
Public domain*

**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.**

Revelation 2:8-11a *Be faithful unto death*

Psalms 71:1-6 *Free me from the hand of the wicked* PCS 63  
*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*.

*We stand for the gospel reading and  
join with the cantor in the Alleluia after the organ intro:*



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Since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again;  
death no longer has any power over him.

*Sung: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Matthew 11:25-30 *To the weary and burdened*

This is the gospel of the Lord!

*Sung: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**The Preaching of the Word**

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

**LITBIT:** The preacher needs to articulate the awful truth of human need, a need that many of the hearers may already know but for which they may have no words. The words of the sermon need to include the hearers together with all the outsiders and the sinners, using the terms of the texts as names for our sin and death and sorrow. There will be no insiders here; all of us need a word to say the truth about our common lot and all of us need a word in order to begin to believe again.

GORDON LATHROP

**Prayer of Confession**

**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**





## 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:** If Jesus gives thanks over bread and wine on the eve of his death, if Jesus makes that connection between the furthest place away from God, which is suffering and death, and the giving and outpouring of his Father, and if in his person he fuses those things together, then wherever we are some connection between us and God is possible. All places, all people, all things have about them an unexpected sacramental depth. They open on to God the Giver.

ROWAN WILLIAMS

## 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.*

## 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

...Holy things for a people made holy;

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*Psalm 34:8*

*(Sung:) Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord,  
alleluia, alleluia, give praise to his name. [TIS 390]*

...Let us receive what we are,  
let us become what we receive  
*The body of Christ*

## The Communion

*The Uniting 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 communion, 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 569 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

1. Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy powerful hand:  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.

2. Open now the crystal fountain  
whence the living waters flow:  
let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

*Words: William Williams 1717–91  
tr. Peter Williams 1722–96 and William Williams alt  
Music John Hughes 1873-1932  
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## Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude JC Kittel, [*Kleine suite nach*] *Liebster Jesu*

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

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