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!

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A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude M-A Charpentier, Laetatus sum [Psalm 121] Sinfonia

The Gathering of the People of God

Sung Processional (TIS 715)

We stand to sing as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space; this can be sung as a round, repeating at ** ; the cantor sings through once, then we join to sing 3 ½ times, the last ½ being a repeat of the second line.

If you join in at ** you will sing it 3 times without the repeat.

Everything that has breath

**Praise the Lord of hosts forever, praise the Lord!

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Come, worship the LORD; the LORD inclines to hear the desire of the meek.

Come, worship the LORD; the LORD will strengthen our heart

cf. Psalm 10.17

Prayer of invocation

Hymn 472 Father of mercy, God of consolation

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you all.

And also with you.

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 31:27-34 *The promise of the new covenant - written in their hearts*

Psalm 121 The Lord shall keep watch over you [PCS p.344 no.6]

REFRAIN: Organ, then cantor, then all together (sung also at the end).

The psalm text is then sung responsively to the TONE



¹I lift up my eyes | to the hills; from where is my | help to come?

² My help comes | from the Lord, the maker of | heaven and earth.

- ³ He will not suffer your | foot to <u>stumble</u>; he who watches over you | will not sleep.
- ⁴ Behold, he who keeps watch | over <u>Israe</u>l shall neither | <u>slumber</u> nor sleep.
- ⁵The Lord himself | <u>watches</u> over you; *the Lord is your shade at | your right hand,*
- ⁶ So that the sun shall not | <u>strike you</u> by day, *neither the | moon by night.*
- ⁷ The Lord shall keep you | from all evil; it is he who shall | keep your soul.
- ⁸ The Lord shall keep watch over your going out and your | coming in, *from this time forth for | evermore. UIW*

REFRAIN

Luke 18:1-8 On persisting in prayer

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

LITBIT: Preaching is to lead us to the Supper as to the visible Word and then invite us to turn in faith toward the famine in the rest of the world – begging for and signing God's great relief in the prayers of intercession, in the collection, and in the sending.

GORDON LATHROP

Prayer of Confession



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

Declaration of Forgiveness

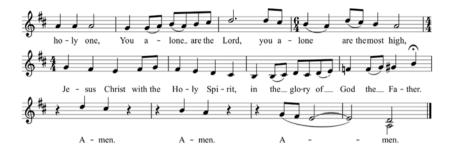
(Please stand if you are able)

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

Thanks be to God!

Doxology





The Peace

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

Affirmation of Faith: We are a pilgrim people

Adapted from the Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen One,
confessing him as Lord
to the glory of God the Father.
In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the Church,
the Head over all things,
the beginning of a new creation.

We acknowledge that we live and work between the time of Christ's death and resurrection and the final consummation of all things which he will bring.

We are a pilgrim people, always on the way towards a promised goal; on the way Christ feeds us with word and sacraments, and we have the gift of the Spirit in order that we may not lose the way. We will live and work within the faith and unity of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, bearing witness to that unity which is both Christ's gift and his will.

We affirm that every member of the Church is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified. Together with all the people of God, we will serve the world for which Christ died. And we await with hope the day of the Lord Jesus.

The Visible Word: Eucharist

Hymn 507 Come, Spirit blest

(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.

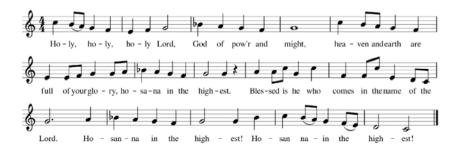
Lift up your hearts.

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...)



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 risen.

Christ will come again.

(The prayer continues...)



Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r are yours forever and ever, are yours forever and ever.

(The prayer continues...)

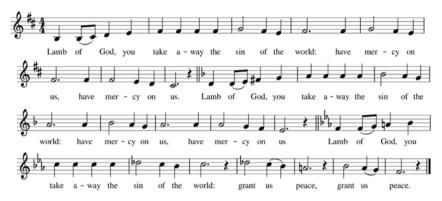
The Lord's Prayer

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 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.

...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

LITBIT: Prayer is not a narrowly private activity; it is about your belonging in the body of Christ, and in the family of humanity. If you understand what is going on when you pray, then the world changes. And if in prayer you are gradually becoming attuned to the will and purpose of God, then the divine power that comes into you is bound to finds its outlet in this healing of relations. That is not to say that you pray in order to be a nicer person, or so that justice and reconciliation will happen. You pray because Christ is in you. And if that is really happening, then the sort of things you can expect to see developing around you are justice and reconciliation.

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 613 Lord of all hopefulness

Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude V Luebeck, Praeludium

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

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