

## *Preparing for Worship Today*

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- We're about mid-flight through "Ordinary" and so, principally for the sake of a change, there are a few changes for the next little while. The service will commence with a sung processional, and we will continue with our MtE Eucharist Setting 2 for communion (to which we returned last week). We'll also "have a go" at being a little more conversational in our hearing of the Scripture readings – see the next note!
- **SOMETHING NEW:** If you get here early enough, please read through the text of today's readings prior to our hearing them. The text can be found at the end of the order of service. We will have brief conversation/response time to the readings after hearing them, and before the sermon – all to make our hearing a little sharper!
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



## **A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT**

**LITBIT:** And on the day named after the sun all, whether they live in the city or the countryside, are gathered together in unity. Then the records of the apostles or the writing of the prophets are read for as long as there is time. When the reader has concluded, the presider in a discourse admonishes and invites us into the pattern of these good things. Then we all stand together and offer prayer. ...when we have concluded the prayer, bread is set out to eat with wine and water...

*JUSTIN MARTYR, describing his 2<sup>nd</sup> century worship services*

**Prelude** D Buxtehude, *Praeludium, Fuga & Ciacona*

## *The Gathering of the People of God*

**Sung Processional** (TIS 52 v.1)

*If you are able, please stand when the cantor sings the first line, and sing as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space:*

***Let us sing to the God of salvation,  
let us sing to the Lord our rock!  
Let us come to God's house with thanksgiving,  
let us come before the Lord and sing!***

***Praise our Maker, praise our saviour,  
praise the Lord our everlasting king!  
Every throne must bow before him,  
God is Lord of everything!***

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### **Call to Worship**

The Lord be with you!  
***And also with you!***

Worship the Lord for his marvellous works,  
***for we have been wonderfully made.***

Come, worship the Lord who has made us,  
***who has searched us out and known us.***

*Psalm 139.1, 13*

### **Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn** 375 Come, let us with our Lord arise

*"...this is the day the Lord has made.."*

## *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.***

Romans 8:18-25 *The whole creation groans*

Psalm 86:11-17 *Great is your steadfast love*

The REFRAIN is sung before and after the whole psalm.  
The psalm text will then be sung responsorially to the TONE below: the first line is sung by the 'half' of the congregation closest to the stained glass windows, the second bold-italic line by the other side

## REFRAIN

Hal H. Hopson



God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.

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## TONE



<sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk | in your truth;  
**give me an undivided heart to re- | -vere your name.**

<sup>12</sup> I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,  
**and I will glorify your | name forever.**

<sup>13</sup> For great is your steadfast | love to-ward me;  
**you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.**

<sup>14</sup> O God, the insolent rise | up a-gainst me;  
**a band of ruffians seeks my life,**  
**and they give | you no heed.**

<sup>15</sup> But you, O Lord, are a God merci- | -ful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast | love and faithfulness.**

<sup>16</sup> Turn to me and be grac- | -ious to me;  
**give your strength to your servant;**  
**save the child of your | serving girl.**

<sup>17</sup> Show me a sign of your favor,  
so that those who hate me may see it  
and be | put to shame,  
**because you, LORD, have helped | me and comforted me.**

## REFRAIN

Matthew 13:24-30 *He set before them another parable*

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 mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy.

**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



Glo - ry to God... in the high - est and

peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly king... al-migh-ty God. and...

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you... for... your glo-ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the  
 ho - ly one, You a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the most high,  
 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*

**Prayers of the People**

**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 509** Come now, everlasting Spirit

*(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 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...)*

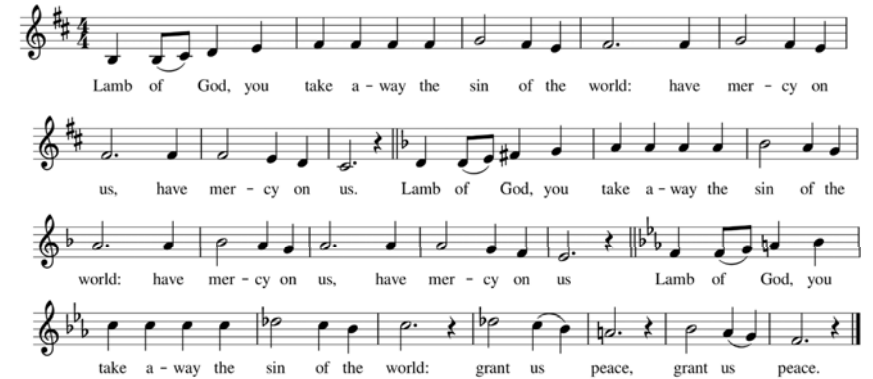
### The Lord's Prayer

**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.*

**GATHERING:** *We'll gather in a circle around the table for the distribution of the elements; please wait until all have received and the prayer is said before returning to your seats.*

*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.*

## 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** 560(ii) All my hope on God is founded

*'...all we build with care and labour,  
tower and temple, fall to dust..  
Love will stand at his hand,  
joy shall wait for his command.'*

## Word of Mission and Blessing

**Postlude** J-F Dandrieu, *Ofertoire*

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

Our email address is:

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Our website is:

<http://marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au/>