

Preparing for Worship Today

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!

A Service of Word & Sacrament

Prelude L Marchand, *Grand Dialogue*

The Gathering of the People of God

Processional *please stand*

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

We do not live to ourselves,

and we do not die to ourselves.

If we live, we live to the Lord,

and if we die, we die to the Lord;

so then, whether we live or whether we die,

we are the Lord's.

For to this end Christ died and lived again,

so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Let every knee bow to the Lord,

and every tongue give praise to God. *(based on Romans 14)*

Prayer of invocation

Lord, we honour you as creator;

draw near, O God, and give us grace.

Lord, we trust you as saviour;

draw near, O God, and give us peace.

Lord, we seek you as advocate;

draw near, O God, and give us hope.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit;

draw near, O God, and give us life.

Draw near, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn 137 For the beauty of the earth

Greeting The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, ...

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 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Preaching of the Word

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

Prayer of Confession

Let us seek the mercy of God to make us people of reconciliation.

Gracious God, when bitterness blinds us to your love;
when we bear grudges rather than crosses;
when forgiveness seems beyond us; ...

And the people sing:



Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

God of grace, hear our confession and forgive us, that we may be set free through your Spirit of peace to love and serve you. For the sake of Jesus and his gospel of life.

Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness (Please stand if you are able)

The apostle teaches that Christ died and lived again, to be Lord of both the dead and the living. Let us rise with Christ to new life as he declares to us:

Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology

Glo - ry to God... in the high - est and
peace to Gods' 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.

...please share a sign of peace with each other

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

Hymn 442 All praise to our redeeming Lord

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

The Invitation

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...)

... And so we praise you with the faithful of every time and place,
joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal
hymn:



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...)

... Great is the mystery of faith...



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...)

... that all blessing and honour might be yours:



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

Christ is the bread of Resurrection, new life for all.

Christ is the cup of salvation, poured out for our healing.

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.***

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.

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.

Prayer after Communion

Offering

Gracious God, who has reconciled all things in Jesus Christ our Lord, may these gifts be but a sign of the greater giving of our whole lives in your service. Bless these gifts, and we who offer them, to your glory and praise.

Amen.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 648 Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us

Word of Mission and Blessing

As those embraced in the love of Jesus, go forth to proclaim the gospel of his reconciliation and peace, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Postlude C Franck, *Troisième Choral*

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

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