

## A Service of the Word for Ordinary Time

### *Welcome*

### *Preparation*

O Lord, open our lips  
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

The Lord be with you  
and also with you.

Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

*Romans 6:4*

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and forever.

**Amen.**

### *Hymn*

### *Confession*

The gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

### *Absolution*

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *The Collect*

Faithful Creator, whose mercy never fails: deepen our faithfulness to you and to your living Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### *The Liturgy of the Word*

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah:

**O Lord, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.  
For whenever I speak, I must cry out,  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the Lord has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.  
If I say, "I will not mention him,  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.  
For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him,  
and take our revenge on him."  
But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.**

They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.  
O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous,  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.  
Sing to the Lord;  
praise the Lord!  
For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.

*Jeremiah 20:7-13*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Anthem*

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the light of the world, says the Lord. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. **Alleluia.**

*cf John 8.12*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

*Matthew 10:24-39*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Reflection*

*Music*

*Reflection*

## *Affirmation of Faith*

Let us affirm our faith:

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
**maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
**God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

**Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;

**he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
**the Lord, the giver of life,**  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

**With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**

He has spoken through the prophets.

**We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.**

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## *JAG The Peace*

'Where two or three are gathered together in my name,' says the Lord, 'there am I in the midst of them.'

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## *Prayers*

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

*The following response may be used:* Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*At the end, the following may be said:* Merciful Father, **accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## *The Lord's Prayer*

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

## *Music*

### *Praise Response*

The love of God has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

**We dwell in him and he in us.**

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name,

**make known his deeds among the peoples.**

Sing to him, sing praises to him,

**and speak of all his marvellous works.**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty,

**who was and is and is to come.**

### *Blessing*

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**