

A Communion

Psalm 42

Jesus said: Love the Lord your God with all your heart. with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second most important commandment is like it: Love your neighbour as you love yourself.

Hymn

Like a deer, thirsty for streams of water, we long for you our God.
We remember the past when we went to the house of God; a happy crowd
singing your praise.

We come now to worship in your presence
We long for you, our God.

To worship in your presence

We have known dry times when from our hearts we cried, *Where are you Lord?*
and times when we were penitent and you declared us innocent in Jesus. Your
Spirit defended us against ungodliness

We long for you, our God.

To worship in your presence

Lord, we long to hear your Word. It is light and truth to guide us in our daily
living and give us greater understanding of your Kingdom of love.

We long for you, our God.

To worship in your presence

Lord, to know your presence is to be surrounded by your never failing love and
to have a song of eternity in our hearts.

We long for you, our God.

To worship in your presence

Prayer at the water's edge

Jesus said; The water I give will be a life-giving spring in you and will give you eternal life. [John 4:14]

Lord, our God, to worship is to stand at the edge of a vast inland sea, teeming with life, flowing over the distant horizon into the sky and greater mysteries than we can imagine.

We hesitate to approach for fear of depths we do not know; because we doubt your promises of safety, and we sense our personal unworthiness, but You invite us to step into the water; to be cleansed and refreshed in spirit; to be immersed in the glorious mystery of your life, when sunlight will ripple across the waters and we shall know the peace, joy and love - you give to all who believe, through Jesus Christ your Son.

Lord, give us grace, not just to dabble, but to swim!

Hymn

Readings from The Word

Sermon

Hymn

Prayers of Intercession:

Our prayers for the Church

Let us give thanks to God for the Church
for people worshipping today
in cathedral and city mission hall
in rural churches and chapels
among the tents of refugee camps
in prison rooms and hospital chapels
opening their lives, like us, to be instruments of
your life-changing truth and love.

Let us give thanks for our church
and churches of the community
give thanks for our worship and our activities
through which we offer Jesus and his truth in our community.

Pray that we may be ready for new opportunities
to make Christ known among our own people.

Spirit of God
sweep through your church in grace and power

Our prayers for our land and the world

We give to God the future of our land;
our government
our schools and colleges
our health services
our industries - and employment needs

We give to God the needs of refugees
living in strange lands;
with the trauma of loss - of life, family, home, employment, everything
with the feelings of being unwanted, uncared for
with fear tattooed on their minds
especially

Spirit of God
sweep through your world in grace and power

Our prayers for ourselves and other in need

We give to God the deepest needs of our hearts, minds, spirits
- he knows them all down to the finest detail;
We give to him the needs of those we love the most;
the needs of all the people of our community;
some we know,
all are known to him.

Spirit of God
sweep through all our lives in grace and power
Glorify your name in your Church, in our Community,
and in us. In the name of Jesus. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Hymn

Our Communion

The act of Communion was given to us by our Lord as a way of remembering him and of receiving him into our lives - sharing his resurrection life - the life of his Spirit in us. He used the everyday tokens of bread and wine with which we receive sustenance for our bodies as a symbolic expression of our receiving him into our lives together.

Jesus said: I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread they will live for ever. The wine is the sign of my life blood which seals God's covenant.

Today we take the bread and wine to say:

Lord Jesus, come into my life; your Spirit in us.

The Lord Jesus is Creator, Saviour, Lord.

He came into the world FOR all people:

His Spirit lives in those who believe in him:

He is God with us; God for us.

Creator, Saviour, Lord.

He comes to us with the Father's Spirit-gifts -

Love, reconciliation, peace, and eternal life.

We give thanks to God our Father

The apostle Paul wrote:

No one can deny how great is the truth of our faith:

Christ Jesus came in human form;

he was shown to be right by the Spirit;

he was seen by angels;

he was preached among the nations;

he was believed in throughout the world

he was taken up to heaven (1 Tim 3.16)

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ;
You have given us new life;
You have made us your holy people.**

On the night before he died to rise to life again Jesus shared bread and wine with his friends and made it an everyday sign by which all who believe in him may remember him and receive him into their lives.

He took a piece of bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and said; "This is my body which is for you. Do this to remember me." In the same way after supper he took the cup and said, "This cup is God's new covenant, sealed with my blood. When you drink this, remember me."

Unworthy, but relying on his grace, let us receive him again

Come!
We will come

[Bread and wine are shared according to the usual custom]

Prayer

Father, our God, we praise you and we thank you.

You have come to us in Jesus, your Son and through him you have made us one with you. By your Spirit equip us with grace and faith,

that together with your people we may live and work for your kingdom on earth every day and share in its fulfilment on the final day, when we are one with you in your Glory.

Hymn

Blessing

Let us live in the wonder of God our Father;
in the love of our friend and saviour Jesus;
and by the power of the Holy Spirit;
One God; Our God.

God for us, God with us, God in us.