

Christ Church, Ipswich

Sunday 22nd June 2025

Family Worship

Hello. I hope all is well. Let us worship God together:

Call to worship

Children of God,
give praise to our God who loves you.
All who are broken and bruised,
glorify our God who will grant you peace.
All who are healed and restored,
stand in awe of our God who has and will transform your life.
Come now and worship.

R&S 261 At the name of Jesus

1 At the name of Jesus
every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him
King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure
we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning
was the mighty Word.

2 Humbled for a season,
to receive a Name
from the lips of sinners
unto whom he came,
he became a witness,
faithful to the last,
and returned victorious,
when from death he passed.

3 In your hearts enthrone him;
there let him make new
all that is not holy,
all that is not true.
He is God the saviour
He is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshipped,
trusted and adored.

4 When this same Lord Jesus
shall appear again
in his Father's glory,
there with him to reign,
then may we adore him,
all before him bow,
as our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

Caroline Maria Noel. (1817-77)*

A prayer of adoration

Almighty, powerful God,
who is full of compassion,
who rescues us from danger,
who strengthens the weak,
who feeds the poor:
we bow down and honour your name.

Almighty, powerful God,
who brings hope and healing,
who hears our cry,
whose heart feels our pain,
who heals us inside and out:
we bow down and honour your name. Amen.

A prayer of confession

Lord, how the world needs your healing. We think of the blight of plastic polluting our rivers and oceans, or the distress of creatures on the verge of extinction, the scars of climate change and the sufferings inflicted by conflict. Forgive us if we unwittingly play any part in these things. Show us what we can do to help bring change in the world.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, mercifully hear us.

Lord, there are so many forms of pain and suffering. How we need your healing hand. Forgive us: when the pull of social media is so great that we stray into wrong territory; for pain we inflict by choosing to follow our own paths and schemes; or when we think ourselves to be better than others, or allow differences to separate us. Your healing hands are always open. Forgive us when we ignore them, whether through fear, ignorance or self-will.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, mercifully hear us

An assurance of forgiveness

There is so much sin and pain in our broken world.

But when we journey with Jesus,

we find forgiveness and healing.

We are all one in Christ Jesus,

who has forgiven our sins

and leads us into eternity with him. **Amen.**

A prayer of praise and thanksgiving

Thank you for the hope and healing you bring about in our life, our world.

Thank you for guiding and using us to bring your light to others.

One day there will be no more darkness, no more pain or disappointment.

All people and nations will be healed and renewed.

We thank you, Lord, for your promise that all will be well. **Amen.**

Family Time

R&S 72 Now thank we all our God

1 Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices;
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be ever more.

Martin Rinkart. (1586-1649)
tr. Catherine Winkworth. (1827-78)

The children go to Junior Church with our love and blessing

Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac

²⁶Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn^l no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me' — ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. ³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

R&S 302 O Breath of God, come sweeping through us

1 O Breathe of life, come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,
And fit your church to meet this hour.

2 O Wind of God, come, bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore; for this we plead.

3 O Breath of love, come, breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart:
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.

Elizabeth Porter Head. (1850-1936)

Reflection***A moment for reflection*****R&S 601 Christ is the world's true light**

1 Christ is the world's true light,
its captain of salvation,
the daystar clear and bright
and joy of every nation;
new life, new hope awakes,
where'er we own his sway:
freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day.

2 In Christ all races meet,
their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete,
from sunrise to its setting:
when Christ is throned as Lord,
all shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare beat the sword,
to pruning-hook the spear.

3 One Lord, in one great name
 unite us all who own thee;
 cast out our pride and shame
 that hinder to enthrone thee;
 the world has waited long,
 has travailed long in pain;
 to heal its ancient wrong,
 come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

G. W. Briggs (1875-1959) altd.*

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Our prayers of intercession

We bring our prayers to God for a world in pain; confused and angry,
 suffering and perplexed, and for a Church needing to love and serve.

God of silence, we remember before You the needs of our world,
 people on the move in search of safety,
 people rebuilding shattered cities and dreams,
 people meeting in secret because of how they love and live,
 and ask for Your strength and loving kindness on all they do.
 We remember those who dare to lead in our world
 that they may pursue justice and integrity not riches and power,
 that we may live in peace.

God, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

Earth moving God,
 we pray for all seeking to make a positive difference in difficult times;
 those working to mitigate the effects of the climate crisis,
 those bringing health care to the poor and dispossessed,
 those seeking to influence governmental policy for good,
 those who uphold law and order,
 and those who working for ever more just laws,
 and ask for your strength and loving kindness in all they do.
 We remember those who seek to do harm,
 who enrich themselves at the expense of others,
 who maim, wound and murder,
 that they may face justice and themselves,
 find ways to turn around, and give, and find, freedom.

God, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

God of wind, fire, and calm, we pray for Your Church
 confused by the times,
 forgetting to see where You are at work,
 wanting to help but lacking in confidence.
 We remember those who lead Your Church,
 who offer vision and discernment
 and who inspire us to see the work You have for us,
 and ask You make us receptive to new perspectives.

God, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

Eternal Trinity,
 We remember before you those we know in any kind of need....

God, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

We join our prayers together as we pray as Jesus taught...Our Father....

The Lord's Prayer

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. 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.

R&S 509 O Jesus, I have promised

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me feel thee near me;
the world is ever near,
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

3 O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, thou hast promised,
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Saviour and my Friend.

John Ernest Bode (1816-74)*

A sending out prayer

Come with us, Lord, in our brokenness and bring healing.
Come with us, Lord, into our divided world and unite us.
Come with us, Lord, and cast from us that which is not of you,
that we may live as your children in your world,
today and always. **Amen.**

The Blessing

And may the love and blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
be with upon us and those we love,
this day and evermore. **Amen.**

The Grace

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore. Amen.**