

The sea is his for he made it, *
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the Lord our maker.
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the
sheep of his hand. *
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; *
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, *
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies, *
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers *
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, *
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear, *
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, *
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation *
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God *
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, *
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Officiant Let us confess our faith as we say,
People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven
and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and
born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the
dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe
in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us join in prayer with God's faithful people throughout the world, saying
"God of Love: hear our prayer."

We pray for the unity of your church, that our life may reflect the love you
have shown us
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We ask your grace for Barry our Bishop, Pamela our priest, and for all who
minister in word and in action, that we may bear faithful witness to your
good news.
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We seek your peace and justice in our world, our country, and our
community, that the needy may never be forgotten.
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing on our homes, our friends and family, and on those
who live alone, that we may know your presence ever near us.
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We name before you all whom you have given us to pray for (especially...)
knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can ask or
imagine.
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to you all who have died (especially...), that our trust in you
may deepen as you keep them safe in your care.
God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We offer thanks and praise for all you have done for us, rejoicing in the knowledge that you are with us always.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We look for your purposes to be accomplished, and ask you to fill us with the strength and vision to further your reign.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

THE PEACE

We are the body of Christ; in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

DOXOLOGY

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**



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A Service of the Word 2 (SW2)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have again brought us together to praise you for your goodness and to ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand in the week that is past, and your purpose in the week to come; through Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Officiant Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with our neighbour.

People **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Officiant Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

VENITE

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God *

and a great king above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

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