



Welcome – Archdeacon Brett Watterson

Romans 15:5-6 - *May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Lord, for the years

Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided,
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that Word, the Word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze.
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us,
Lord of the Word, receive your people's praise.

Lord, for our world, when we disown and doubt Him,
Loveless in strength and comfortless in pain;
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without Him,
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us -
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne -
Past put behind us, for the future take us,
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith, © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI Licence No. 86308.
Used by permission

THE PAST

Friends in Christ, we come together to meet with God,
and to take our part in the building up of his Church.
We will lift up our hearts in thanks and praise,
hear from God's holy word,
and pray for this world, and for ourselves.
In the light of our Bishop's synod address, in this service,
we look back at the past with lament and repentance, consider
our present situation with humility and dependence, and look to
the future with hope and commitment.
The Bible tells us to approach God confidently,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.
As we do so, we must confess our sins,
seeking forgiveness through God's boundless
goodness and mercy.

Our bishop exhorted us to confession this morning this way:

Perhaps you have been judgemental and harsh in regard to
past decision makers and power brokers.

Perhaps you have spoken maliciously or falsely of others or
indulged in gossip and the spreading of rumours.

Perhaps you were part of certain decision-making groups in our
past but have never, with humility, admitted any fault.

Perhaps you have sought attention for yourself at the expense
of the gospel or relationships.

Perhaps you have a sense of entitlement and let fly when
things don't happen the way you like.

You may have been an abuser but have never admitted it.
You may have withheld forgiveness, hanging on to rage or
malice.

You may have chosen to withdraw from relationship instead of
seeking the costly way of reconciliation.

Perhaps you are holding on to hurt and anger, and your
disappointment in past or present leaders is impacting your
ability to get on now and serve the Lord with joy.

Remember this: *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all
unrighteousness.* (1 John 1:9).

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray
together,

God of all mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.

We have wandered from your way.

**We have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and have failed to do what is right.**

**You alone can save us. Have mercy on us,
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.**

**Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit
that we may live the new life to your glory.**

This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

God desires that none should perish, but that all should turn to
Christ, and live. In response to his call we acknowledge our sins.
God pardons those who humbly repent, and truly believe the
gospel. Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ
the righteous. He is the perfect offering for our sins, and not for
ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 2.1-2

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good

His love endures forever.

Hymn of the Saviour

From the chaos of darkness, Your word shaped the earth
In Your image a people made
But we traded perfection, the truth for a lie
And Your glory was veiled in shame

But a promise made, a blessing You gave
To a people of Your name
For this broken world, a Saviour foretold
To bear all our grief and pain

When the heavenly Saviour descended His throne
All my sin on His shoulders laid
And to win our redemption, He suffered and died
For the sake of my guilt and shame

Oh the price He paid in taking my place
So that death was overcome
When the King of love burst forth from the grave
Proclaiming the victor's won

At the end of the ages, the world passed away
I will gaze on my Saviour's face
When my heart is perfected and free from my sin
I will rest in Your glorious grace

For the song we raise, the works of our hands
Are in service of the King
When a thousand tongues cry, 'Glory to God'
Forever His praise we'll sing

For the song we raise, the works of our hands
Are in service of the King
When a thousand tongues cry, 'Glory to God'
Forever His praise we'll sing
Forever His praise we'll sing

© 2019 Alanna Glover and Philip Percival
CCLI song no: 7134330

THE PRESENT

We have learnt this morning, something of the present situation of our Diocese. We pray for God's transforming work among us, using some of the classic Anglican collects.

Let us pray.

The Scriptures

Blessed Lord, you have caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning: grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, encouraged and supported by your holy Word, we may embrace and always hold fast the joyful hope of everlasting life, which you have given in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Sin which distracts

Raise up your great power, Lord, and come among us to save us; that, although through our sins we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your plentiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through the sufficiency of your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Grace and power

Heavenly Father, keep your household the Church continually in your true religion; that those who lean only on the hope of your heavenly grace may always be defended by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Love

Lord, you have taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing: send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; grant this, for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen.**

Defended to live for God

Almighty God, we confess that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Thankfulness, godly thinking and godly behaviour

Heavenly Father, the giver of all good things, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and grant that by your holy inspiration we may think those things that are good, and by your merciful guidance may perform them; through our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer, mercy and God's good gifts

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and constantly give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down on us the abundance of your mercy,

forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

THE FUTURE

Psalm – The Lord is my Shepherd

Anglican chant by Hylton Stewart – from St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney.

The Lord is my Shepherd, therefore can I lack nothing, He shall feed me in a green pasture and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and they staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me, thou hast anointed with oil and my cup shall be full. But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Bible reading: Philippians 1:27-2:11

²⁷ Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit,^[a] striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹ For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰ since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ Who, being in very nature^[a] God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^[b] of a servant, being made in human likeness.

⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God

SYNOD SERMON

Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus

Bishop Mark Calder

Affirmation of faith

**Christ is the image of the invisible God:
the first-born of all creation.**

For in him all things were created:

in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.

All things were created through him and for him:

he is before all things

and in him all things hold together.

He is the head of the body, the Church:

he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead.

For it pleased God that in him

all fullness should dwell:

and through him all things be reconciled to himself.

Colossians 1.15–20

Time of prayer

Let us pray

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 forever. Amen.

Because the Lord is our Shepherd

We shall not want

He makes me lie down in green pastures

He leads me beside still waters

Goodness and mercy will follow me all my days

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever

Grant that we may live a life worthy of the gospel

and strive as one for the work of the gospel

Help us to become one in spirit and mind

Doing nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit

Grant us to have the same mindset which was in Christ Jesus

who made himself nothing, taking the nature of a servant

We continue in prayer

1. That we may be clear and passionate about making disciples
2. That the Lord of the harvest will send more workers
3. Giving thanks for the Sydney gift, we humbly pray for more financial resources so that we might grow the work
4. That we will fix our eyes on Jesus and glorify God with one heart and voice

Closing prayer

Faithful God, you have promised to hear the prayers of all who ask in Jesus' name. In your mercy, accept our prayers. Grant us what we have asked in faith, according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

O For A Thousand Tongues

O for a thousand tongues to sing

My great Redeemer's praise,

The glories of my God and King,

The triumphs of his grace!

He breaks the power of cancelled sin,

And sets the prisoner free:

His blood can make the foulest clean;

His blood availed for me.

He speaks; and, listening to his voice,

New life the dead receive;

The mournful broken hearts rejoice;

The humble poor believe.

My gracious Master and my God,

Assist me to proclaim

And spread through all the earth abroad

The honours of Thy name.

C. Wesley 1739 14 June

The Benediction

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and his Son our Lord Jesus Christ, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**