

The Order of Service for Home Worship

THE SECOND SUNDAY before LENT: CREATION SUNDAY



Hymn: Eternal Father, Strong to Save.

1. **Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.**
2. **O Saviour, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,
And calm, amid its rage, didst sleep:
O hear us, when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.**
3. **O sacred Spirit, who didst brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us, when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.**
4. **O Trinity of love and power,
Our bretheren shield in danger's hour.
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them whereso'er they go,
And ever let there rise to thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Heavenly Father, all hearts are open to you. No secrets are hidden from you.
Purify us with the fire of your Holy Spirit that we may love and worship you
faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of
our sins that we may know his peace is our hearts.

Lord Jesus, mighty God and Prince of Peace. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, Word made flesh and splendour of the Father.. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to
everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;
Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

Collect: Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us
in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness
in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the
Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Genesis **2. 4b-9, 15-25**

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the
field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up - for the LORD
God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground;
but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground - then
the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils
the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a
garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of
the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and
good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the
knowledge of good and evil. The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden
of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely
eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you
shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.' Then the LORD God said,

'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.' Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed. 'This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 65 (1-2, 9, 12-13) Response: Happy are those who choose to live in your courts.

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come. **R/**

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. **R/**

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
The meadows clothe themselves with flocks,
The valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy. **R/**

A reading from Book of Revelation.

4

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around

and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty, who was and is and is to come.' And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing, 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.'

'This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your word is truth, O Lord. Consecrate us in the truth.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke

8. 22-25

Glory to you, O Lord.

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

'This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Meditation: There will be times in all our lives when we feel afraid or anxious and so we can easily empathise with the disciples in our Gospel reading today. At Jesus' request they have set out to cross the lake. As Jesus slept a gale swept across the lake. The winds whipped up the waves buffeting and threatening to overwhelm the boat. As the boat began to fill with water the frightened disciples woke Jesus shouting, "Master, we are perishing!" Jesus, though, remained calm as he rebuked the wind and restored calm to the lake. In the face of real danger and at the height of the disciples' fear the presence of Jesus bought calm and peace. The calming of the winds and the sea amazed the disciples. Luke tells us that their fear of the sea was replaced by a fear of Jesus as they asked each other, "Who is this, that even the winds and the water obey him?" After calming the storm Jesus asked the disciples, "Where is your faith?" But this experience was another learning experience for them. They did not yet fully understand what it meant that he was the promised Messiah,

they did not yet fully understand his authority as the Son of God but every experience they shared with Jesus deepened that understanding. As the disciples travelled with Jesus so we travel with him each day of our lives. He is with us always as he was with the disciples in the boat. The presence of Jesus did not prevent the storm from rising and his presence did not prevent the disciples from panicking when danger threatened. Nor does Jesus promise us a life free of danger or threat. When danger does threaten us, when we become anxious, like the disciples, we turn to Jesus. It may seem to us at times that Jesus is sleeping and unaware of the dangers surrounding us but that is not true. When we turn to him in prayer, as the disciples did on the boat, Jesus will hear us and come to our aid. When we recognise his presence with us, when we place our trust in him, when we lay our fears and anxieties at his feet he will take them from us and fill us with a wonderfully deep sense of peace. A peace that comes from knowing that we are loved by God and that he is with us. As the disciples travelled with Jesus, as they shared experiences with him, they learned more and more about him and their faith grew. As we travel with Jesus, as we share our experiences, our feelings, our fears and anxieties we him, we too learn more about him, we deepen our understanding of him as our Lord and Saviour. As we come to recognise and appreciate his constant presence with us, our faith too will grow and we too will come to know that deep sense of peace which only he can give. **Amen.**

In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own ministry area; may the Church be spiritually equipped to reap the harvest of souls.

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

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; that we may live in reverence for the creation and in harmony and peace with one another.

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

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; that we may bear the harvest of your Spirit in love and joy and peace.

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

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our intercession books; relieve them according to their need, strengthen them with your Holy Spirit and console them with the love of Christ.

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

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time; welcome them and all the departed into the eternal joy and peace of your heavenly kingdom.

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

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**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.**

The Peace:

Jesus said, "Peace, I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Go before us, Lord, in all we do with your most gracious favour, and guide us with your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name, and finally by your mercy receive everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The love of the Lord Jesus draw you to himself; the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen you in his service; the joy of the Lord Jesus fill your hearts and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone:
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood:
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?
3. Alleluia! Bread of angels, thou on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to thee from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me.
Where the songs of all sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Alleluia! King eternal, Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne;
Thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest.
Thou on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic Feast.