



Song: The Lord is my Salvation

Welcome

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The Lord is my stronghold for life;
of whom shall I be afraid.

Psalm 27:1

Song: Here is Love

Confession and assurance

If we claim we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

Most merciful God,

we humbly admit that we need your help. We confess that we have wandered from your way: we have done wrong, 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 the Spirit that we might live as disciples of Christ.

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

God wills that we should all be saved and in response to his call we acknowledge our sins. He pardons those who humbly repent and truly believe the gospel. Therefore we have peace with God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be blessing and honour for ever.

Amen.

Song: O the deep, deep love of Jesus

The Bible reading

1 John 4:7-19

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

¹³This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. ¹⁶And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

¹⁷This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus.

¹⁸There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

¹⁹We love because he first loved us.

God, Love and Covid19

The Rev'd Dr Hugh Begbie

Song: O Key of David

A Creed for Lent

I believe in God, the creator of heaven and earth, Who gave us free will entrusting to us this precious world.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord, who was born in a manger to Mary, a woman of humble beginnings. Refusing to seek power, and turning away the sword, He died for us, the Lamb of God.

He descended into the darkest of all places, but rose again on the third day, bringing life and hope to all.

I believe in Christ's humble spirit conceiving the holy, apostolic and universal church, who is among us and beyond us, before us and after us.

I believe in a church of sinners and of saints, imperfect and in need of grace, yet blessed – the body of Christ.

I believe in the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

A Prayer

Dear Lord, at this time of global chaos and fear, grant to us, your people, faith, love and hope so that we can live through this time with courage and in a way that reveals your love to the world. And we also pray that those who do not know you or your saving love will, in their uncertainty, look for you, and in their seeking, find you. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Song: In Christ Alone

Let's join together in the following responses

Be exalted, Lord, above the heavens,
let your glory cover the earth.

Keep our nation under your care,
and guide us in justice and truth

Let your way be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Send out your light and your truth,
that we may tell of your saving works.

Hear our prayers, O Lord,
for we put our trust in you.

Almighty God, while today we cannot gather together in your name, we are still one in Christ, members of your universal church, joint heirs with you of the kingdom of God. We thank you that you are with us in good times and in bad and we pray that we might live today as we are called to live, as people who love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and who love our neighbour as we love ourselves. **Amen.**

Together

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.

Closing prayer

In this time of uncertainty may we know the peace of God which passes all understanding; and the blessing of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and with me now and forever.

Amen.

Song: You raise me up