

***Song before service starts***

O Church arise

***OBS - Countdown (1.15)***

***Words of Welcome***

***\*Introduction***

In today's reading the Apostle Paul urges us to put on the whole armour of God / to fight against the schemes of the devil and to pray in the Spirit. Let us begin by giving thanks to God who has power over Satan. /

***Prayer of Thanksgiving***

**We give you all thanks and praise, O God, for you are the giver of honour and grace. / The heavens and the earth cannot contain you for you created them and hold them in your hand. And yet you dwell among your people. /**

You have sent your Holy One, Jesus Christ, to speak to us your word of Spirit and life. / Though the forces of evil tried to destroy him, he rose from the grave. / Now he nourishes us for eternal life and arms us with righteousness and truth / that we might stand firm against the spiritual powers of darkness that would tear down all who seek you. /

**Therefore, we offer you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, / who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. //**

***\*Worship in Song***

Before the throne of God above,  
I have a strong, a perfect plea:  
A great High Priest, whose name is Love,  
Who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands,  
My name is written in his heart:  
I know that while in heaven he stands,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,  
No tongue can bid me thence depart,

When Satan tempts me to despair,  
And tells me of the guilt within,  
Upward I look, and see him there,  
Who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God, the just, is satisfied,  
To look on him and pardon me,  
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb,  
My perfect spotless righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!  
One with Himself I cannot die:  
My soul is purchased with his blood,  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ my Saviour and my God,  
With Christ my Saviour and my God.

***\*Confession***

Today we confess our failings to put on the whole armour of God to stand against the schemes of the devil. / Spirit of God, we confess that we put on airs more often than we put on the armour of God. / We are guilty of girding ourselves with lies instead of the truth. / We try to protect ourselves with superstition or self-reliance instead of righteousness, faith, and your gift of salvation. / Our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. / And we are quick to use your Word to attack one another, instead of striking out against the sins we personally commit. / **Forgive us, Holy God. Gift us with the wisdom and strength to change our ways, / so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors of the Good News. /**

***Assurance of God's Forgiveness***

Even though we fail, God's love is poured on us, in us, and through us to others. / Rest assured in God's presence and love for us, that will never fail or abandon us. / In the name of Jesus Christ, you are healed, restored, and forgiven. **Amen. //**

### ***\*Special Prayer for Today***

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray / and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon 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 / but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, / who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.//**

### ***\*Bible Reading***

Ephesians 6.10-20 (*Church Bible p979*)  
(Reader: Jackie Nunn)

This is the word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God. //**

### ***Sermon - Damian***

#### ***\*Worship in Song***

Be Thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom be Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee one

Be Thou my breastplate my sword for the fight  
Be Thou my whole armour be Thou my true might  
Be Thou my soul's shelter be Thou my strong tower  
O raise Thou me heavenward great Power of my power

High King of heaven when vict'ry is won  
May I reach heaven's joys O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart whatever befall  
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

#### ***\*The Apostles Creed***

Do you believe and trust in God the Father? /  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. /**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ? /

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, 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, / he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. /**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit? /  
**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 (led by Phil Butterworth)***

**At the end:** Merciful Father,  
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.//**

#### ***\*The Peace***

God has called us to live in peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.//**

#### ***\*Offertory Prayer***

**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 Eucharistic Prayer A***

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

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord. /**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give thanks and praise. /**

It is indeed right, it is our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places / to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, heavenly King, / almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. /

For he is your living Word; through him you have created all things from the beginning, / and formed us in your own image. Through him you have freed us from the slavery of sin, / giving him to be born of a woman and to die upon the cross; / you raised him from the dead and exalted him to your right hand on high. / Through him you have sent upon us your holy and life-giving Spirit, and made us a people for your own possession. /

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, / we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying: /

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. /**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, / and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit / these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; /

who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; / he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: / Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. /

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: / Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. / Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. /

Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; / we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, / and with this bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord. /

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again. /**

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, / and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, / renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. /

Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, / with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise: /

**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen. //**

### *\*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. / 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. //**

### *\*Breaking of the Bread*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

### *Giving of Communion*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ / which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you. / Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. //

*We receive communion*

### *\*Worship in Song*

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer  
There is no more for heaven now to give  
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom  
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace  
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
For my life is wholly bound to his  
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken  
For by my side the Saviour he will stay  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing  
For in my need his power is displayed  
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley he will lead  
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven  
The future sure the price it has been paid  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave  
To this I hold my sin has been defeated  
Jesus now and ever is my plea  
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus  
For he has said that he will bring me home  
And day by day I know he will renew me  
Until I stand with joy before the throne  
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus  
All the glory evermore to him  
When the race is complete still my lips shall  
repeat  
Yet not I but through Christ in me

### ***\*Prayer after Communion***

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus  
Christ. / Through him we offer you our souls  
and bodies to be a living sacrifice. / Send us out  
in the power of your Spirit to live and work to  
your praise and glory. Amen. //**

### ***\*Worship in Song***

O Church, arise, and put your armour on;  
Hear the call of Christ our Captain.  
For now the weak can say that they are strong  
In the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth,  
We'll stand against the devil's lies;  
An army bold, whose battle-cry is Love,  
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul  
But to rage against the captor;  
And with the sword that makes the wounded  
whole,  
We will fight with faith and valour.  
When faced with trials on every side  
We know the outcome is secure,  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died,  
An inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet  
As the Son of God is stricken;  
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,  
For the Conqueror has risen!  
And as the stone is rolled away,  
And Christ emerges from the grave,  
This victory march continues till the day  
Every eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come put strength in every stride,  
Give grace for every hurdle,  
That we may run with faith to win the prize  
Of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old still line the way,  
Retelling triumphs of His grace,  
We hear their calls and hunger for the day  
When with Christ we stand in glory.

### ***Notices (Extempore)***

#### ***\*Blessing***

God is always with you. Even when times get  
difficult and the way is not clear, / God is truly  
by your side. Rest in God's strength and love  
and serve Him with joy. / And may the grace  
of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and the  
power of the Holy Spirit / be with you and  
among you now and in the days ahead.

**Amen. /**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ. Amen. //**

### ***Music after the service***

O Church arise (v1 & v4)