

***Song before service starts***

Speak O Lord as we come to you

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

***Words of Welcome***

***Call to Worship***

People of God, come!

Come and hear God's Word./

Come and do God's Word.

Come and experience God's comfort./

Come and be challenged to serve God.

Come and discover the cost of following Jesus./

Come and find God's love and his peace.

Come and realise your humanity./

Come and find community.

But most of all, come and meet the Lord./

In his letter to the churches, James writes:/

"Come close to God and he will come close to you"/

So people of God, come!//

***\*Introduction***

The New Testament letter of James is a very practical letter,/ probably written by James the brother of Jesus. James was the leader of the church in Jerusalem./ He addressed his letter to the churches dispersed across the world./ Today we shall be looking at what he wrote about the genuineness of our faith / demonstrated in the way we treat other people.//

***\*Worship in Song***

Speak O Lord as we come to You

To receive the food of Your holy word

Take Your truth plant it deep in us

Shape and fashion us in Your likeness

That the light of Christ might be seen today

In our acts of love and our deeds of faith

Speak O Lord and fulfill in us

All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us Lord full obedience  
Holy reverence true humility  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity  
Cause our faith to rise  
Cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority  
Words of power that can never fail  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak O Lord and renew our minds  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time  
That will echo down through eternity  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us  
Speak O Lord till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory

***\*Confession***

In our reading today we are reminded not to show prejudice against the poor or partiality towards the rich./

Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short / of your call to love one another well. We allow ourselves to be blinded by wealth and power./ We ignore those around us who suffer injustice, poverty, and rejection./ We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities./

**O Lord in your mercy forgive us. Help us to see your great generosity,/ hear your word of mercy, and feel your compassion for all who need your love./**

Strengthen us to reach out in service to those who are in need./ Make us aware of those outside our own communities, that we may see them / as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy./

**May we continue to grow in grace as we learn how to serve you in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen./**

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

Hear and believe these words of grace: /  
God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, / but in order that the world might be saved through him. And so I declare to you: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. /  
**Thanks be to God. //**

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

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: /  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; / through 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***

James 2.1-10 and 14-17 (*Church Bible p1011*)  
(Reader: Libby Holt)

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

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

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

By faith we see the hand of God  
In the light of creation's grand design  
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness  
Who walk by faith and not by sight

By faith our fathers roamed the earth  
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts  
Of a holy city built by God's own hand  
A place where peace and justice reign

We will stand as children of the promise  
We will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward  
Till the race is finished and the work is done  
We'll walk by faith and not by sight

By faith the prophets saw a day  
When the longed-for Messiah would appear  
With the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death  
And rise triumphant from the grave

By faith the church was called to go  
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost  
To deliver captives and to preach good news  
In ev'ry corner of the earth

By faith the mountain shall be moved  
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail  
For we know in Christ all things are possible  
For all who call upon His name

### ***\*The Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, / maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. /**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, / God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; / through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, / was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man. / For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. / On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven / and is seated at the right hand of the Father. / He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. /**  
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, / who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son / is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. / We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. / We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. / We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen. //****

### ***\*Prayers*** (*led by Malcolm Beard*)

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

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

Peace to you from God who is our Father.  
Peace from Jesus Christ who is our peace. /  
Peace from the Holy Spirit who gives us life. /

The peace of God be always with you.  
**and also with you.//**

***\*Offertory Prayer***

**Generous God, creator, redeemer, sustainer,  
at your table / we present this money, symbol  
of the work you have given us to do; use it,/  
use us, in the service of your world to the  
glory of your name. Amen.//**

***\*The Eucharistic Prayer C***

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us./**

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 our Lord. /

For he is our great high priest who has loosed us  
from our sins / and has made us to be a royal  
priesthood to you our God and Father. /

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. /**

All glory be to you, our heavenly Father, who, in  
your tender mercy, / gave your only Son our  
Saviour Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross  
for our redemption; / who made there by his one  
oblation of himself once offered a full, / perfect and  
sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the  
sins of the whole world; / he instituted, and in his  
holy gospel commanded us to continue, / a  
perpetual memory of his precious death until he  
comes again. /

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and  
grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, / we  
receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread  
and this wine, / according to your Son our  
Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, / in  
remembrance of his death and passion, may be  
partakers of his most blessed body and 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. /

Praise to you, Lord Jesus: /  
**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you  
restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory. /**

Therefore, Lord and heavenly Father, in  
remembrance of the precious death and  
passion, / the mighty resurrection and glorious  
ascension of your dear Son Jesus Christ, / we  
offer you through him this our sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving. /

Grant that by his merits and death, and  
through faith in his blood, / we and all your  
Church may receive forgiveness of our sins  
and all other benefits of his passion. /  
Although we are unworthy, through our  
manifold sins, to offer you any sacrifice, / yet  
we pray that you will accept this the duty and  
service that we owe. / Do not weigh our  
merits, but pardon our offences, and fill us all  
who share / in this holy communion with your  
grace and heavenly blessing: /

through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and  
with whom, and in whom, / in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours,  
almighty Father, for ever and ever. **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 for 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***

When peace like a river attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot thou hast taught me to say  
It is well, it is well with my soul

It is well with my soul

It is well, it is well with my soul

Tho' Satan should buffet tho' trials should come  
Let this blest assurance control  
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought  
My sin not in part but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord O my soul

And Lord haste the day when the faith shall be sight  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend  
Even so it is well with my soul

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

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, /  
that when we were still far off you met us in  
your Son and brought us home. / Dying and  
living, he declared your love, gave us grace,  
and opened the gate of glory. / May we who  
share Christ's body live his risen life; / we  
who drink his cup bring life to others; we  
whom the Spirit lights / give light to the  
world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set  
before us, / so we and all your children shall  
be free, and the whole earth / live to praise  
your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen. //

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

May the peace of God our heav'nly Father  
And the grace of Christ the risen Son  
And the fellowship of God the Spirit  
Keep our hearts and minds within His love

And to Him be praise for His glorious reign  
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n  
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain  
Christ eternal the King of kings

May this peace which passes understanding  
And this grace which makes us what we are  
And this fellowship of His communion  
Make us one in spirit and in heart

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

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

Go now, and invest your lives in the works of  
faith. / Be generous and full of compassion for  
those in need. / Fulfill God's holy law by putting  
love into action as eagerly for others as you  
would for yourselves. /

And may God the Father bless you and be  
your defender and provider; / may Christ Jesus  
be your example of love; / and may the Holy  
Spirit empower you and make you rich in  
faith. / And may the triune God be among you  
and remain with you always. Amen. /

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

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

By faith we see the hand of God