

## **Words of Welcome**

### **Introduction** *(Ann Hearnshaw)*

If things grew down instead of up,  
A dog would grow into a pup.  
A cat would grow into a kitten,  
Your sweater would grow into a mitten.  
A cow would grow into a calf,  
A whole would grow into a half.  
Big would grow into something small,  
And small would grow into nothing at all!

It would really be confusing if we lived in a world like that, wouldn't it? That must have been how the disciples felt one day when Jesus was trying to teach them a lesson about who was the greatest in the Kingdom of God, where to be first, you have to go to the end of the line, or to be important, you have to become like a little child. In God's Kingdom, the children are just as important.

### **Opening Prayer**

Dear Father, we thank you that you love children. Help us to remember as we grow older, that to be great in your sight, we must come to you as a child. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### **Worship in Song**

Come people of the risen king  
Who delight to bring Him praise  
Come all and tune your hearts to sing  
To the morning star of grace  
From the shifting shadows of the earth  
We will lift our eyes to Him  
Where steady arms of mercy reach  
To gather children in

Rejoice rejoice let ev'ry tongue rejoice  
One heart one voice  
O Church of Christ rejoice

Come those whose joy is morning sun  
And those weeping through the night  
Come those who tell of battles won  
And those struggling in the fight  
For His perfect love will never change  
And His mercies never cease  
But follow us through all our days  
With the certain hope of peace

Come young and old from ev'ry land  
Men and women of the faith  
Come those with full or empty hands  
Find the riches of His grace  
Over all the world His people sing  
Shore to shore we hear them call  
The truth that cries through ev'ry age  
Our God is all in all

### **Confession**

Many continue to believe that we must earn our way into God's heart. We are often in two minds - we say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We say we want to live in a way that honours Christ, but in our pride we live only to serve ourselves. We say that we believe that the gospel transforms our lives, but we want to be the greatest.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you, through our own fault, in thought, and word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are heartily sorry, and repent of all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

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

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to live as a servant and to be our Saviour, forgive us our sins and make us holy that we may serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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***

Mark 9.30-37 (*Church Bible page 845*)

(*Reader: Ryan O'Neill*)

This is the Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

## ***Worship in Song (new song)***

How good it is to sing  
To bring our praise to Him  
Whose love and mercy knows no end  
He brings the sun and rain  
He calls each star by name  
The universe resounds with praise

O shout for joy to God and sing a new song  
Extol the Lord of life for His provision  
And He delights in those who love and fear Him  
All those who put their hope in God

He gathers families  
Orphans and refugees  
And binds the wounds of those who mourn  
The humble lifted high  
The proud He casts aside  
His justice faithful as the dawn

What friend or foe can last  
Before His icy blast  
The winds and waves obey His voice  
Yet mercy will prevail  
His love will reconcile  
The nations of the earth to Him

## ***Sermon - Damian***

### ***Affirmation of Faith***

Using words from Philippians chapter 2, let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God:

**Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

***Prayers*** (*led by Mary Clemence*)

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

### ***The Peace***

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.

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, as our service to you to the glory of your name.  
**Amen.**

### ***The Eucharistic Prayer F***

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.**

You are worthy of our thanks and praise, Lord God of truth, for by the breath of your mouth you have spoken your word, and all things have come into being.

You fashioned us in your image and placed us in the garden of your delight. Though we chose the path of rebellion you would not abandon your own.

Again and again you drew us into your covenant of grace. You gave your people the law and taught us by your prophets to look for your reign of justice, mercy and peace.

As we watch for the signs of your kingdom on earth, we echo the song of the angels in heaven, evermore 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.**

Lord God, you are the most holy one, enthroned in splendour and light, yet in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ you reveal the power of your love made perfect in our human weakness.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

Embracing our humanity, Jesus showed us the way of salvation; loving us to the end, he gave himself to death for us; dying for his own, he set us free from the bonds of sin, that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

On the night he gave up himself for us all he 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.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

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.

**Amen. Lord, we believe.**

Therefore we proclaim the death that he suffered on the cross, we celebrate his resurrection, his bursting from the tomb, we rejoice that he reigns at your right hand on high and we long for his coming in glory.

**Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

As we recall the one, perfect sacrifice of our redemption, Father, by your Holy Spirit let these gifts of your creation be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; form us into the likeness of Christ and make us a perfect offering in your sight.

**Amen. Come Holy Spirit.**

Look with favour on your people and in your mercy hear the cry of our hearts. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free and fill your Church with power from on high.

**Amen. Come Holy Spirit.**

Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast with all your saints at the table in your kingdom, where the new creation is brought to perfection in 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, 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*

Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

### *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*

I will offer up my life  
In spirit and truth  
Pouring out the oil of love  
As my worship to You  
In surrender I must give my every part  
Lord receive the sacrifice  
Of a broken heart

Jesus what can I give what can I bring  
To so faithful a friend to so loving a King  
Saviour what can be said what can be sung  
As a praise of Your name  
For the things You have done  
Oh my words could not tell not even in part  
Of the debt of love that is owed  
By this thankful heart

You deserve my every breath  
For You've paid the great cost  
Giving up Your life to death  
Even death on a cross  
You took all my shame away  
There defeated my sin  
Opened up the gates of heaven  
And have beckoned me in

### *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.**

### *Banns of Marriage & Notices*

#### *Worship in Song*

Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated Lord to Thee  
Take my moments and my days  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise

Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take my voice and let me sing  
Always only for my King  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee

Take my silver and my gold  
Not a mite would I withhold  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose

Take my will and make it Thine  
It shall be no longer mine  
Take my heart it is Thine own  
It shall be Thy royal throne

Take my love my Lord I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store  
Take myself and I will be  
Ever only all for Thee

### *Blessing*

Remember the words of Jesus, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." May God give you the faith and love to put this into practice, and the humility to permit others to do the same for you. So now depart from this house of prayer with your hope restored and your life renewed. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, will be with you now and evermore. **Amen.**

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