La Côte Anglican Church

Service of Morning Prayer with

an Act of Spiritual Communion

**Welcome & Notices**

**The Greeting**

The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

**Prayer of Preparation**

All Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Hymn** *Dear Lord and Father of mankind*

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise;
in deeper reverence, praise.
2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee;
rise up and follow thee.
3. O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity
interpreted by love!
interpreted by love!

**Prayers of Penitence**

***Lord, we like to think we can cope on our own***

Lord, we like to think we can cope on our own;
we don’t need anybody’s help.
Though the furrow is long and the going tough
we will plough it alone.
That is what is admired in this world, Lord:
pride and self-sufficiency, never giving in or letting go of control.

But you see that this is the way of slavery:
you offer us a different yoke,
and we confess that we barely understand it,
for your yoke is well-suited to us,
a balm to our shoulders and a lightening of our load.

***QUIET***

***All* Most merciful God,**

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,**

**we confess that we have sinned**

**in thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved your with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**In your mercy**

**forgive what we have been,**

**help us to amend what we are,**

**and direct what we shall be;**

**that we may do justly, love mercy,**

**and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

**Absolution**

May the Father forgive you

by the death of the Son

and strengthen you

to live in the power of the Spirit

all your days.

**Amen.**

**The Collect**

Faithful Creator,

Whose mercy never fails:

Deepen our faithfulness to you

And to your living Word,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## First Reading *Psalm 145. 8-14*

8The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness.

9The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his creatures.

10All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

11They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your mighty power,

12To make known to all peoples your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

14The Lord is sure in all his words
and faithful in all his deeds.

**Glory to the Father**

**and to the Son**

**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning is**

**now and shall be forever, Amen**

**Song / hymn** *I cannot tell*

1 I cannot tell why he,

whom angels worship,
should stoop to love

the peoples of the earth,
or why, as Shepherd,

he should seek the wandrer,
with his mysterious promise

of new birth.
But this I know,

that he was born of Mary
when Bethl'em's manger

was his only home,
and that he lived at

Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour,

Saviour of the world, is come.

2 I cannot tell

how silently he suffered,
as with his peace

he graced this place of tears,
or how his heart

upon the cross was broken,
the crown of pain

to three and thirty years.
But this I know,

he heals the broken-hearted,
and stays our sin

and calms our lurking fear,
and lifts the burden

from the heavy laden;
for yet the Saviour,

Saviour of the world is here.

## Gospel Reading *Matthew 11.16-19,25-30*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

16“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, 17‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ 18For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; 19the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

25At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; 26yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. 27All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. 28“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?
*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God

and makes Christ known in the world?
*All* **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.
*All* **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

**The Peace**

‘Where two or three are gathered together in my name,’

says the Lord, ‘there am I in the midst of them.’

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

**An Act of Spiritual Communion**

Although we are not meeting in person to share in Holy Communion, this prayer of Spiritual Communion taken from Great St Mary’s Church Cambridge, is a beautiful way to remember Jesus and abide in Him.

**Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.**

**Taizé chant**

*The kingdom of God is justice and peace*

*and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

*Come Lord and open in us the gates of your Kingdom.*

**Blessing**

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
*All* **Amen.**

Though the road be long and weary,

and the burdens hard to bear,

go forth with Christ, yoked to him,

in friendship, love and prayer.
*All* **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Prayer and Care**

**This week if you would like prayer for anything, do contact** **Peta Tracey****, who will share your prayer request in confidence with our La Côte Church prayer group.**

**Finding out more about us**

**Please go to www.lacotechurch.ch for more information about our church.**

**Support for our church**

**On behalf of our church - thank you to all of you who are pledging and donating your collections online.**

**Thank you also to those who are putting collection money aside each week.**

**Thank you to all who have made a special contribution to mark our annual Gift Day service. There is still time to add your gift if you would like to.**

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