

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

# Christ Church with St Mary's Service of Holy Communion

## Theme: Baptism of Christ

We say together all words in **bold**



Christ Church – North Aisle





Welcome and introduction



The Lord be with you  
and also with you.







Parish Bible  
verse

2025 - 2026

**Love never wrongs  
anyone- hence love  
is the fulfilment of  
the law.**

**Romans 13:10**

## A Prayer for Growth

**God of mission**

**who alone brings growth to your church,  
send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning  
wisdom to our actions and power to our witness.  
Help our Partnership of Churches to grow in numbers  
in spiritual commitment to you  
and in service to our Swindon community  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**<sup>1</sup>Crown him with many crowns  
the Lamb upon his throne  
hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
all music but its own  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.**





**<sup>2</sup>Crown him the Virgin's Son  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those  
crimson trophies won  
which now his brow adorn  
fruit of the mystic Rose  
as of that Rose the Stem  
the Root whence mercy ever flows  
the Babe of Bethlehem.**

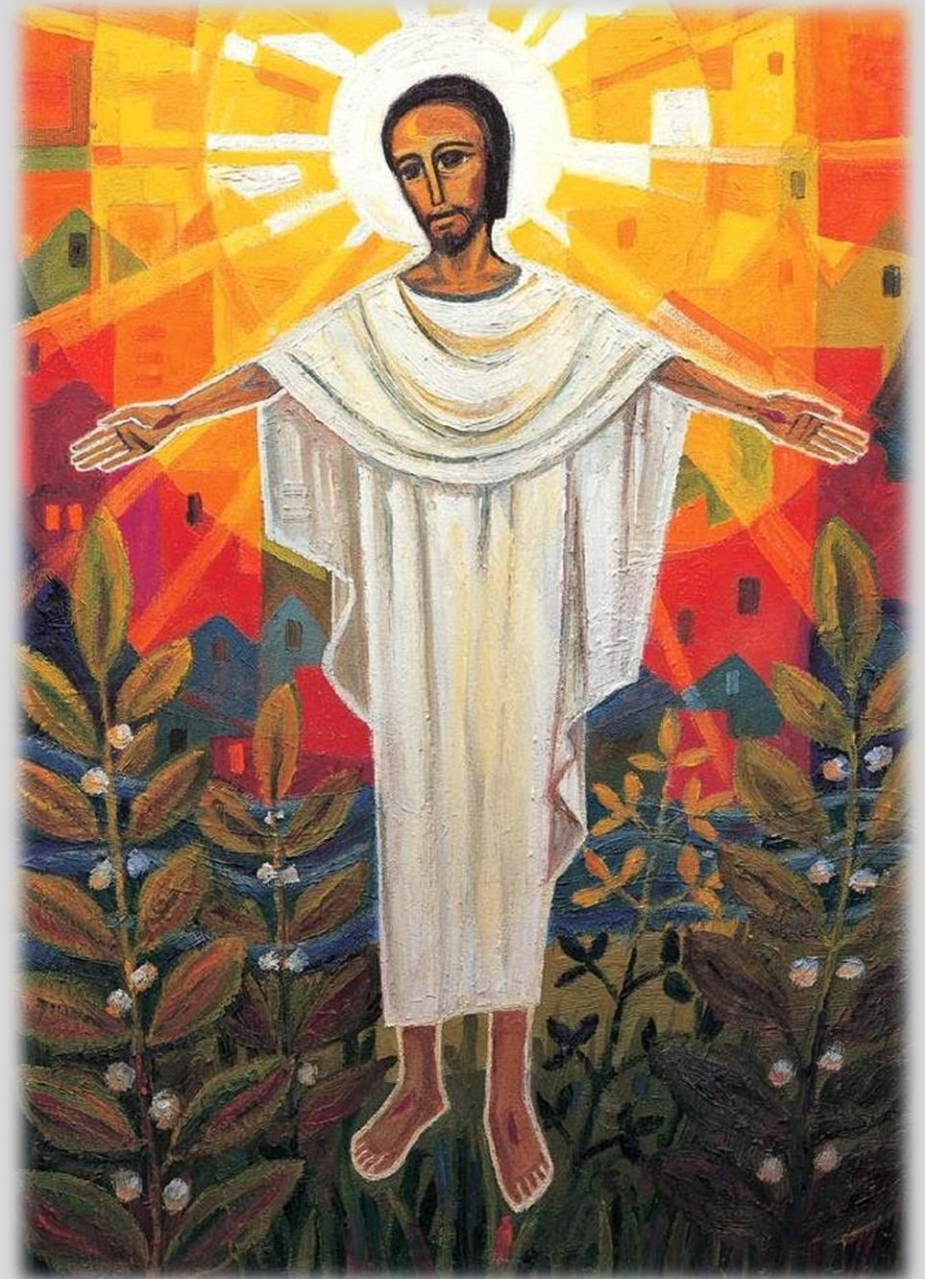


**3 Crown him the Lord of love  
behold his hands and side  
rich wounds, yet visible above  
in beauty glorified  
no angels in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends each burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.**

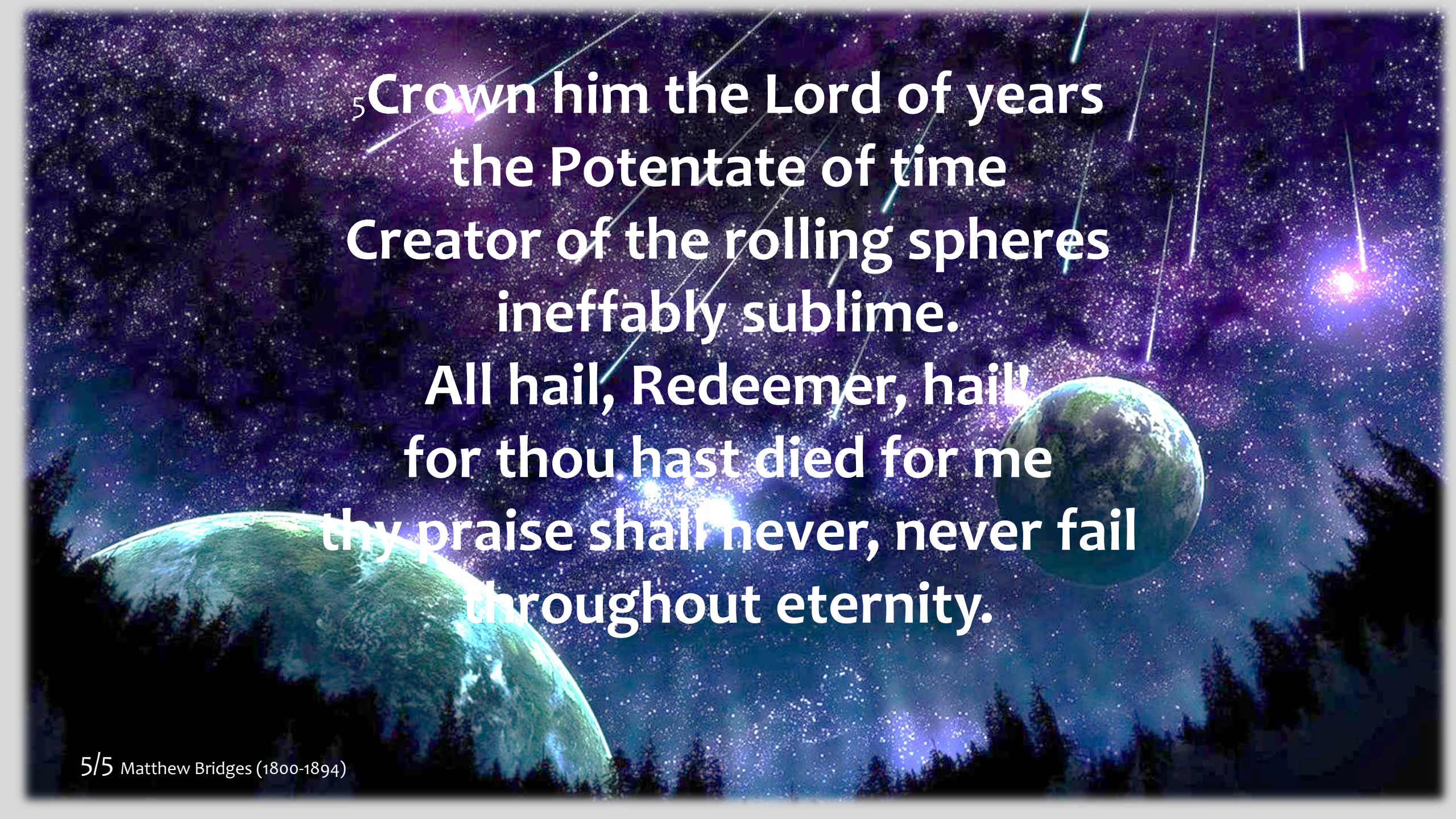




**<sup>4</sup>Crown him the Lord of peace  
whose pow'r a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole  
that wars may cease  
absorbed in prayer and praise  
his reign shall know no end  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flow'rs of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.**







<sup>5</sup>Crown him the Lord of years  
the Potentate of time  
Creator of the rolling spheres  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail  
for thou hast died for me  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.





**Offertory and thankyou prayer**





Children's Talk – 'Dad's proud of his son'





Prayer with the children

**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.**



Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed, through negligence,  
through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.**

**We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past and grant that we may  
serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.**

**Amen.**

May the God  
of love and power  
forgive you and free you  
from your sins, heal and  
strengthen you by his Spirit  
and raise you to new life  
in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

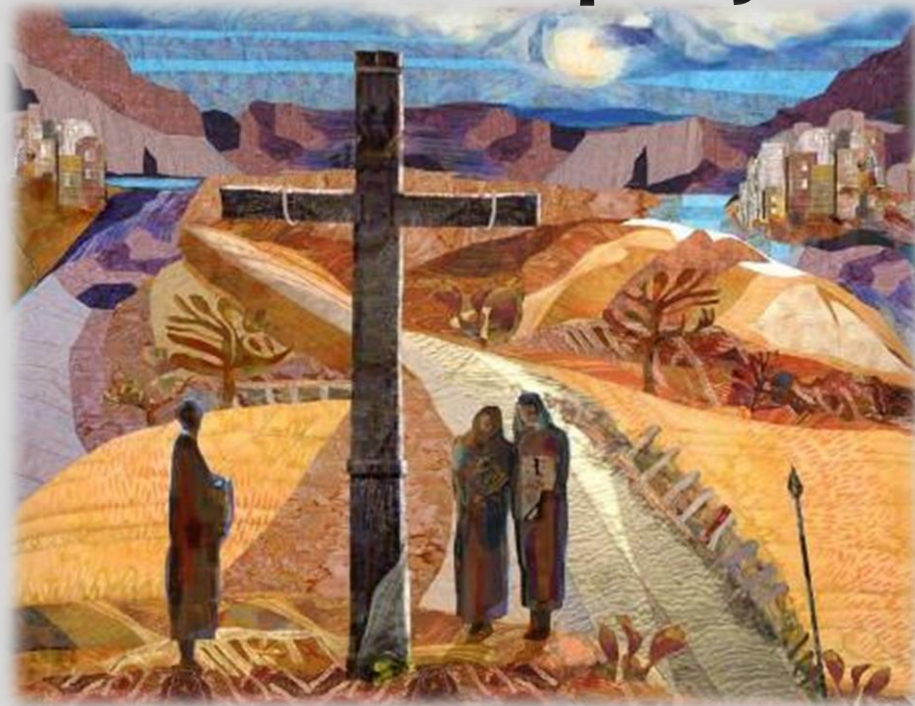




**Glory to God in the highest  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

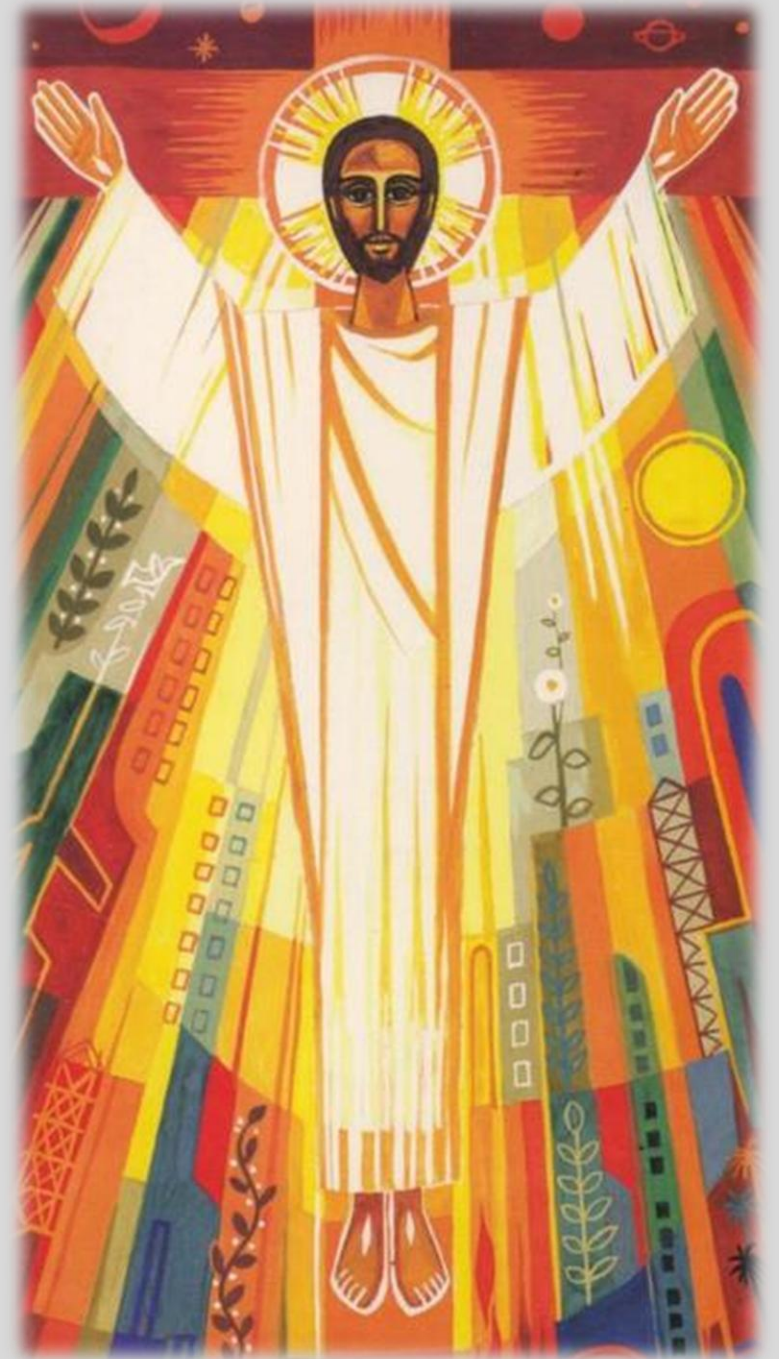


**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world have mercy on us  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
receive our prayer.**





**For you alone are the Holy One  
you alone are the Lord  
you alone are the Most High  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**



# The Collect prayer for today

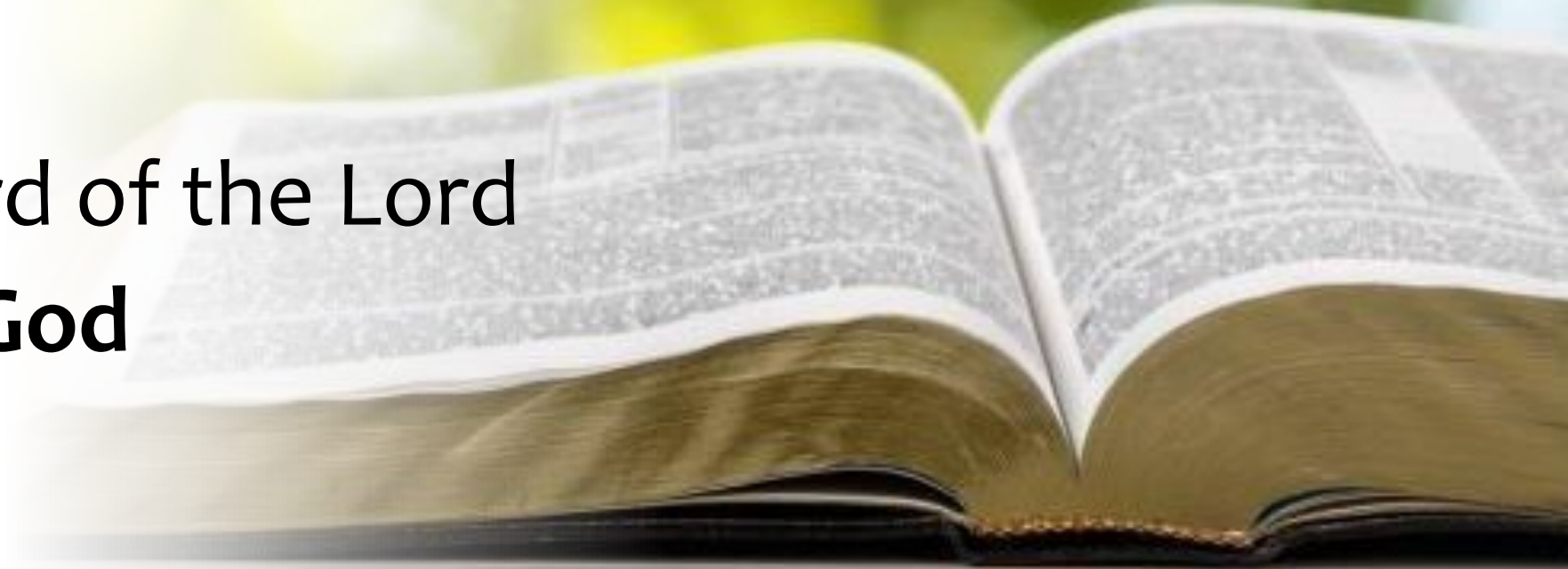
Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son;  
may we recognise him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved children  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen**



Acts 10 : 34 - 43

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



**O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness  
bow down before him his glory proclaim  
with gold of obedience and incense of lowliness  
kneel and adore him the Lord is his name.**





**<sup>2</sup>Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness  
high on his heart he will bear it for thee  
comfort thy sorrows and answer thy prayerfulness  
guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.**

**<sup>3</sup>Fear not to enter his courts in the slenderness  
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine  
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness  
these are the off'rings to lay on his shrine.**

**<sup>4</sup>These though we bring them in  
trembling and fearfulness  
he will accept for the name that is dear  
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness  
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.**





The Gospel reading is announced

Allelulia, allelulia.  
Christ was revealed in flesh,  
proclaimed among the nations  
and believed in throughout the world.

**Alleluia**



Hear the Gospel of  
our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to.....  
**Glory to you O Lord**

Matthew 3 : 13 - 17

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







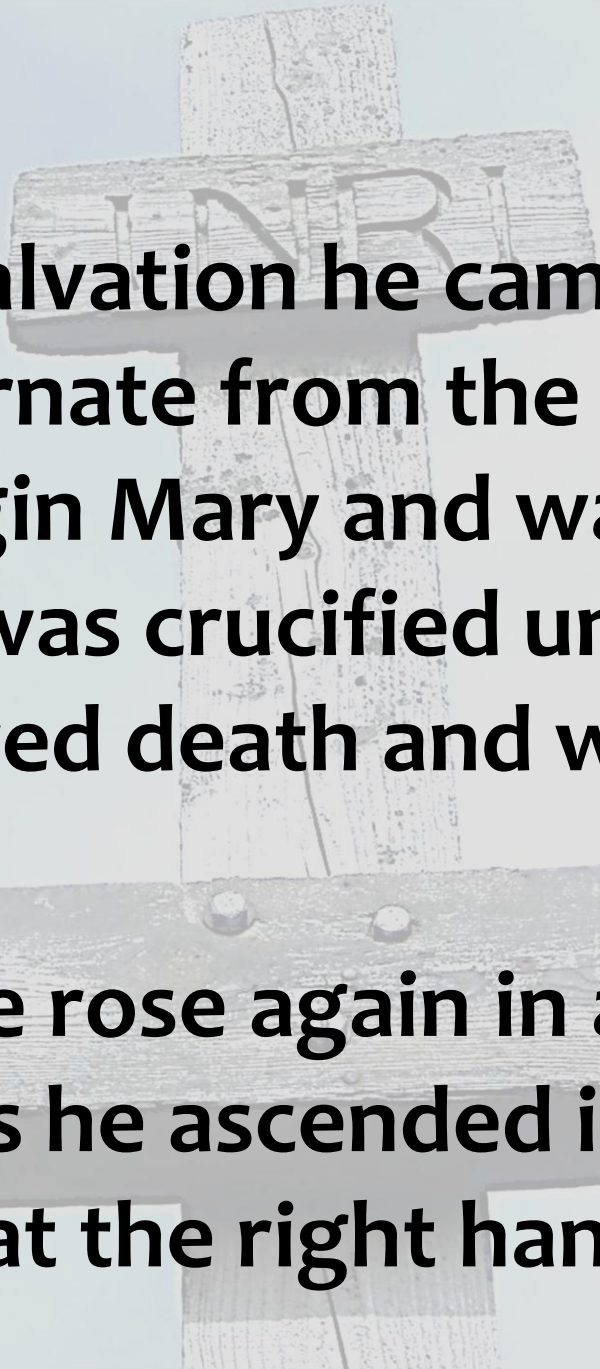
Sermon – ‘Hope refreshed – the Baptism of Jesus’

# 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 of Intercession

Final Response

Merciful Father-

**Accept these  
prayers for the  
sake of your son,  
our Saviour Jesus  
Christ. Amen**



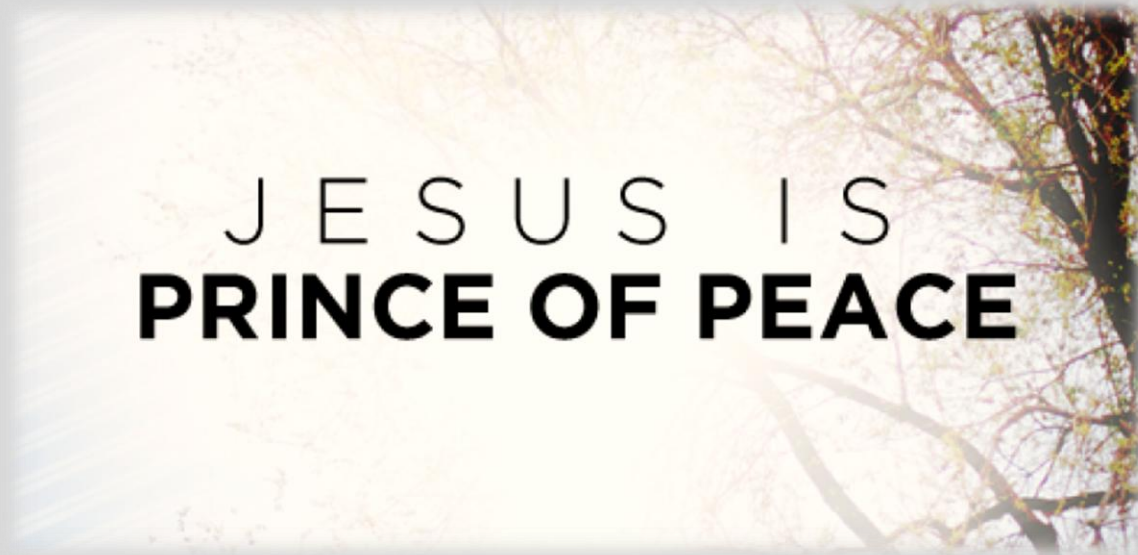


# The Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of his government  
and of peace there shall be no end.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

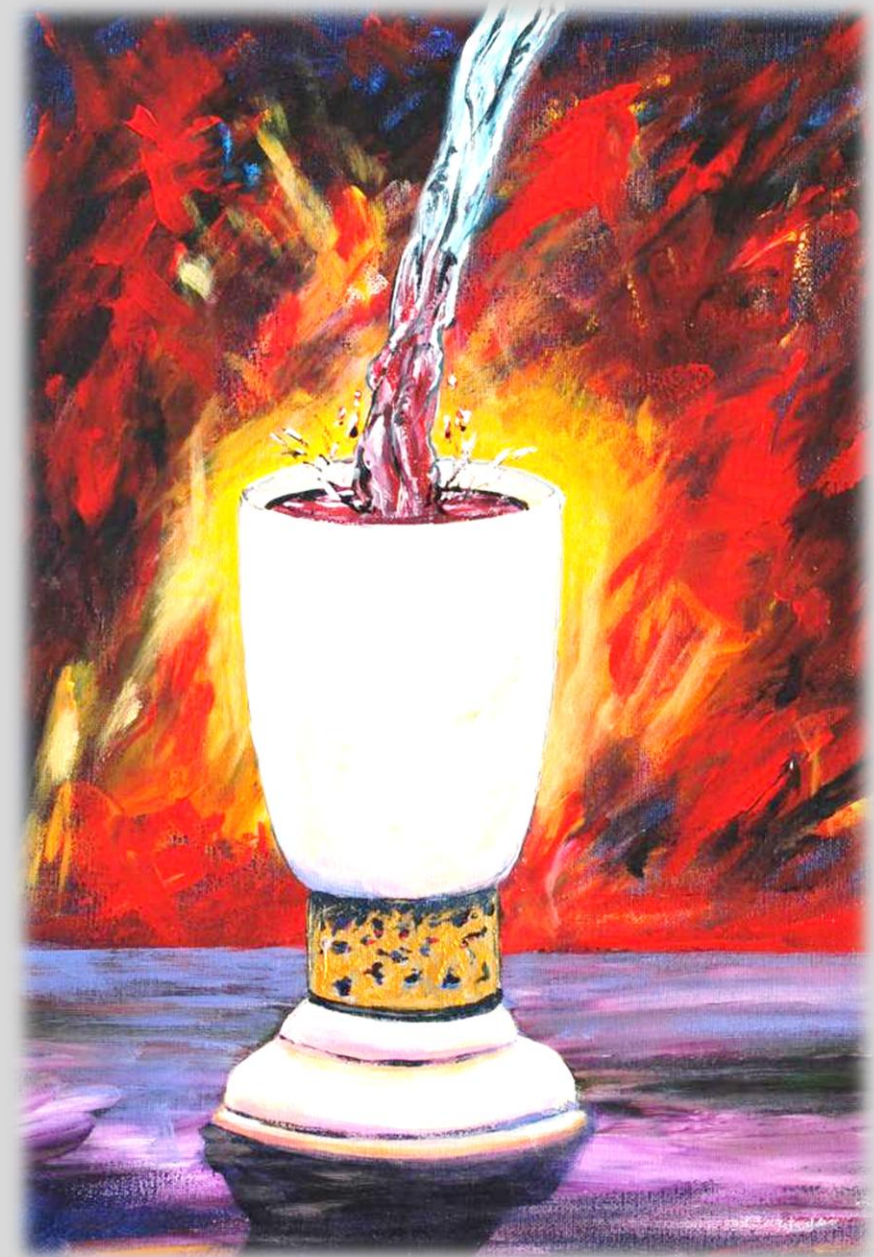


**<sup>1</sup>Songs of thankfulness and praise  
Jesus Lord to thee we raise  
manifested by the star  
to the sages from afar  
branch of royal David's stem  
in thy birth at Bethlehem  
anthems be to thee addressed  
God in man made manifest.**



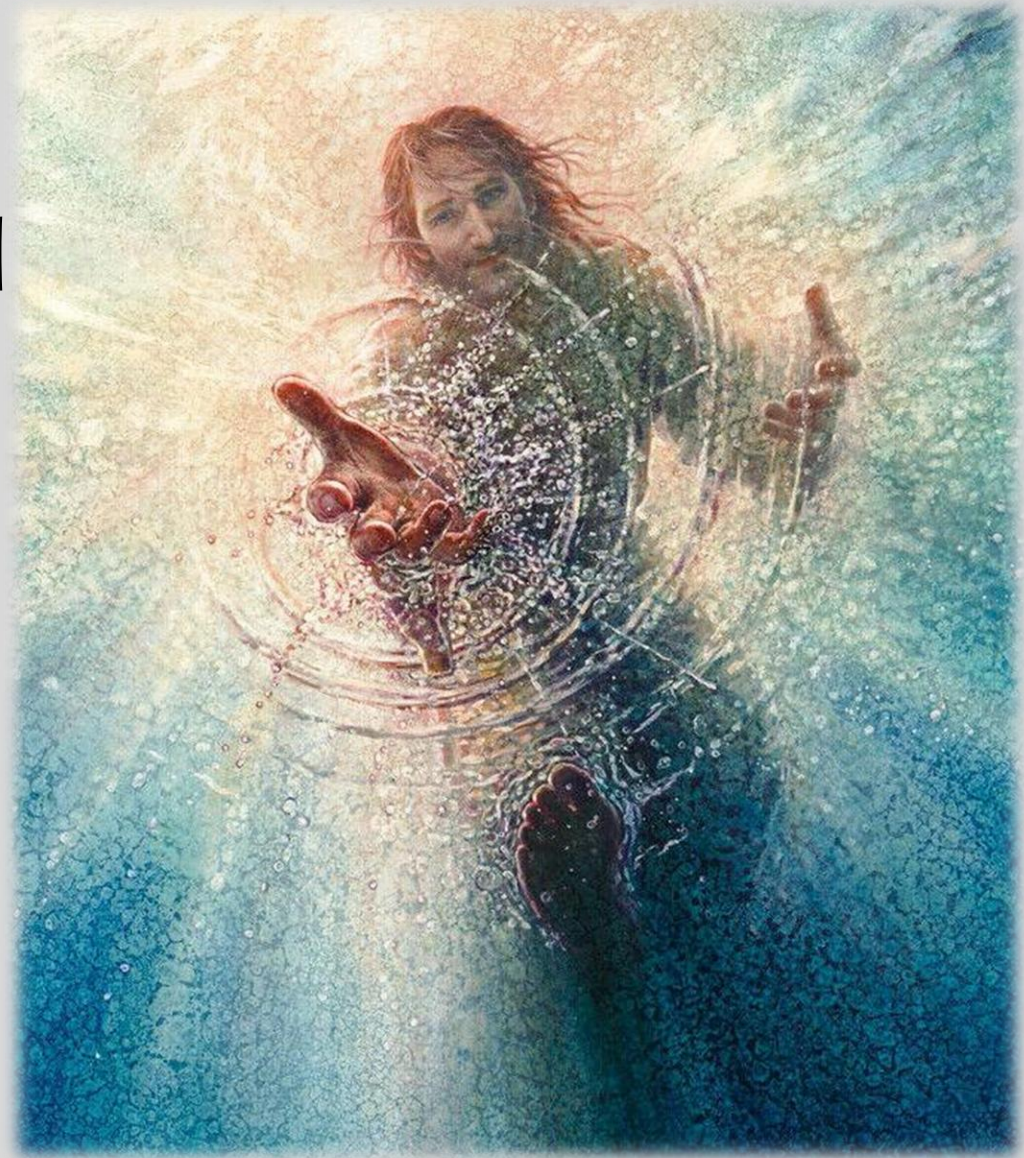


**2 Manifest at Jordan's stream  
prophet, priest and King supreme  
and at Cana wedding-guest  
in thy Godhead manifest  
manifest in pow'r divine  
changing water into wine  
anthems be to thee addressed  
God in man made manifest.**





**3 Manifest in making whole  
palsied limbs and fainting soul  
manifest in valiant fight  
quelling all the devil's might  
manifest in gracious will  
ever bringing good from ill  
anthems be to thee addressed  
God in man made manifest.**





**<sup>4</sup>Sun and moon shall darkened be  
stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee  
Christ will then like lightning shine  
all will see his glorious sign.  
All will then the trumpet hear  
all will see the judge appear  
thou by all wilt be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.**



**5 Grant us grace to see thee Lord  
mirrored in thy holy word  
may we imitate thee now  
and be pure as pure art thou  
that we like to thee may be  
at your great Epiphany  
and may praise thee ever blest  
God in man made manifest.**





Blessed be God, by whose grace creation is renewed, by whose love heaven is opened, by whose mercy we offer our sacrifice of praise.



**Blessed be God for ever**

The Lord is here.

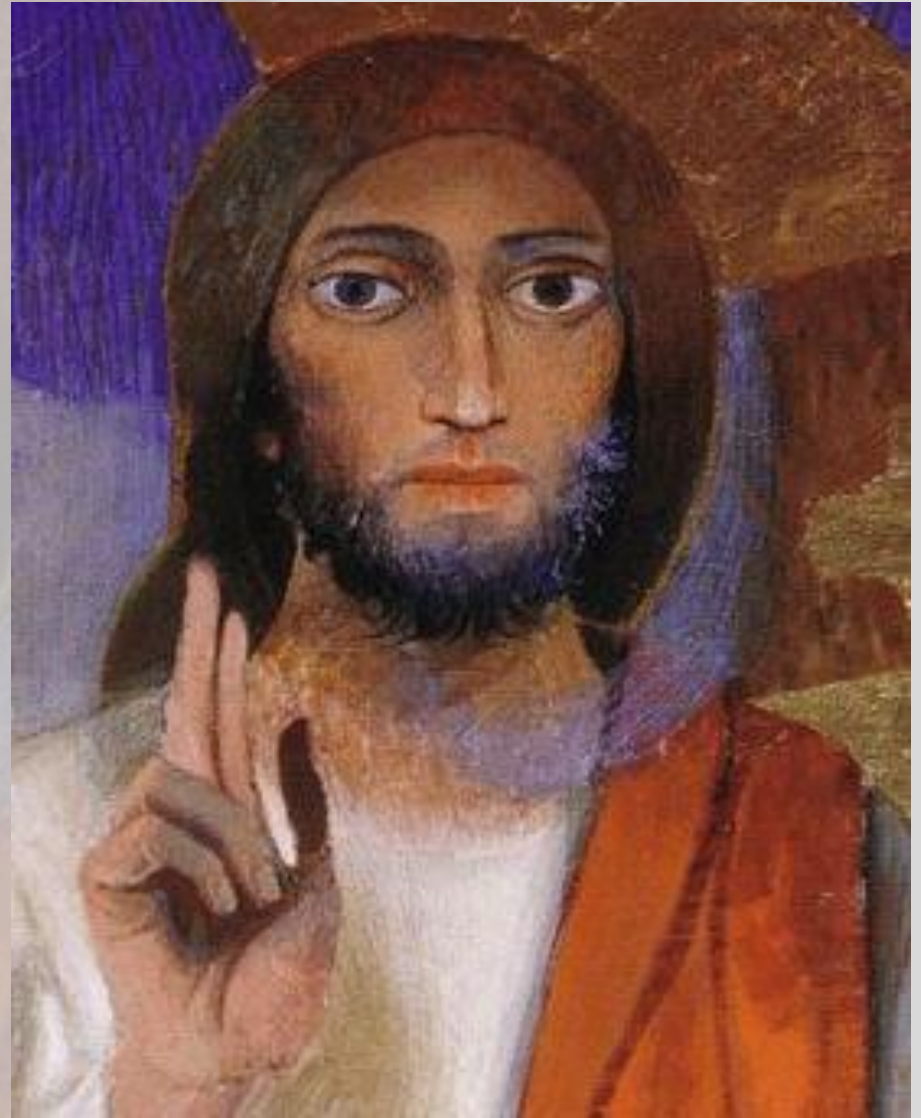
**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks  
to the Lord our God.

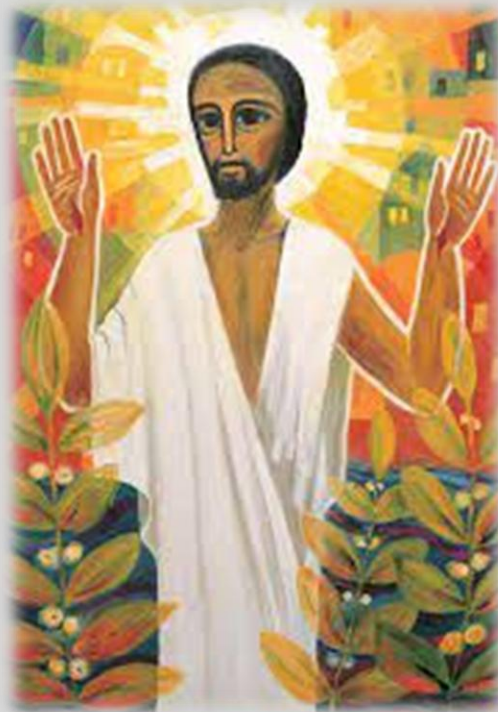
**It is right to give thanks and praise.**





Almighty God, good Father to us all  
your face is turned towards your world.  
In love you gave us Jesus your Son  
to rescue us from sin and death.  
Your Word goes out to call us home  
to the city where angels sing your praise.  
We join with them in heaven's song:





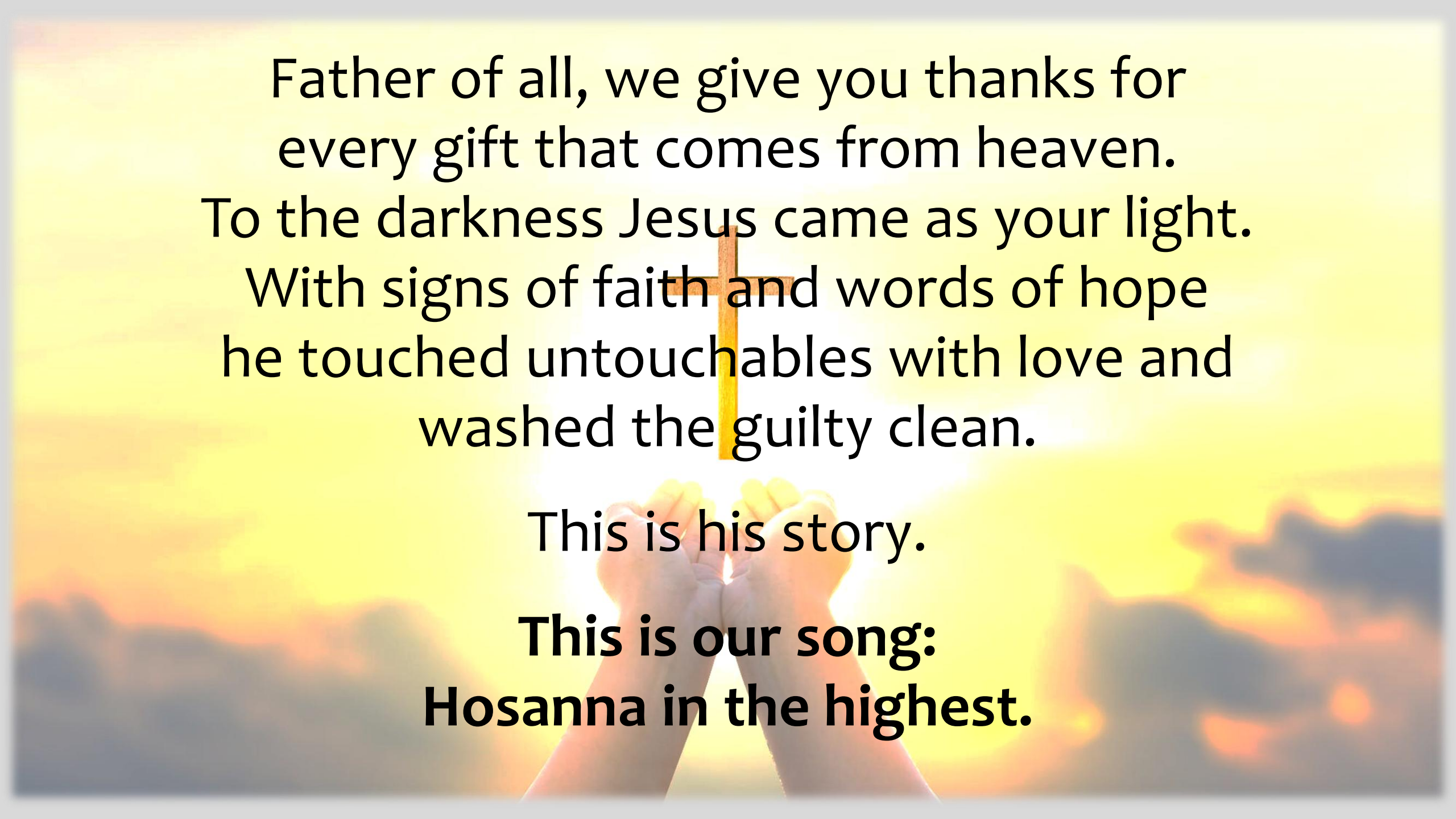
**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**





Father of all, we give you thanks for  
every gift that comes from heaven.  
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.  
With signs of faith and words of hope  
he touched untouchables with love and  
washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son yet at the end they turned on him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people. This is his story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**





Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food  
he took bread, gave thanks,  
broke it and said:  
This is my body, given for you all.

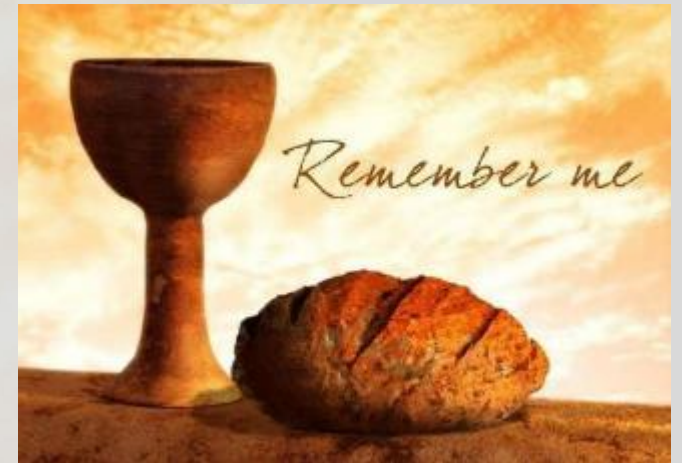


Jesus then gave thanks for the wine  
he took the cup, gave it and said:  
This is my blood, shed for you all  
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this in remembrance of me.

This is our story.

**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**





Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup  
we celebrate the cross  
on which he died to set us free.  
Defying death he rose again and is alive  
with you to plead for us and all the world.  
This is our story.



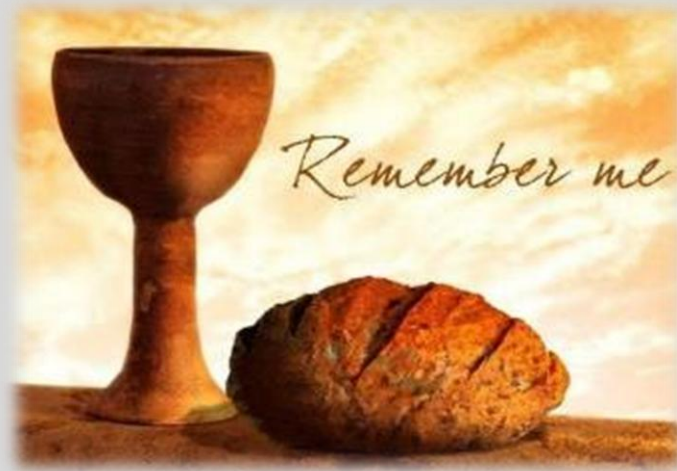
**This is our song:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Send your Spirit on us now  
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ  
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.





May we and all who share this food  
offer ourselves to live for you  
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven  
where all creation worships you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:



**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours 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.**

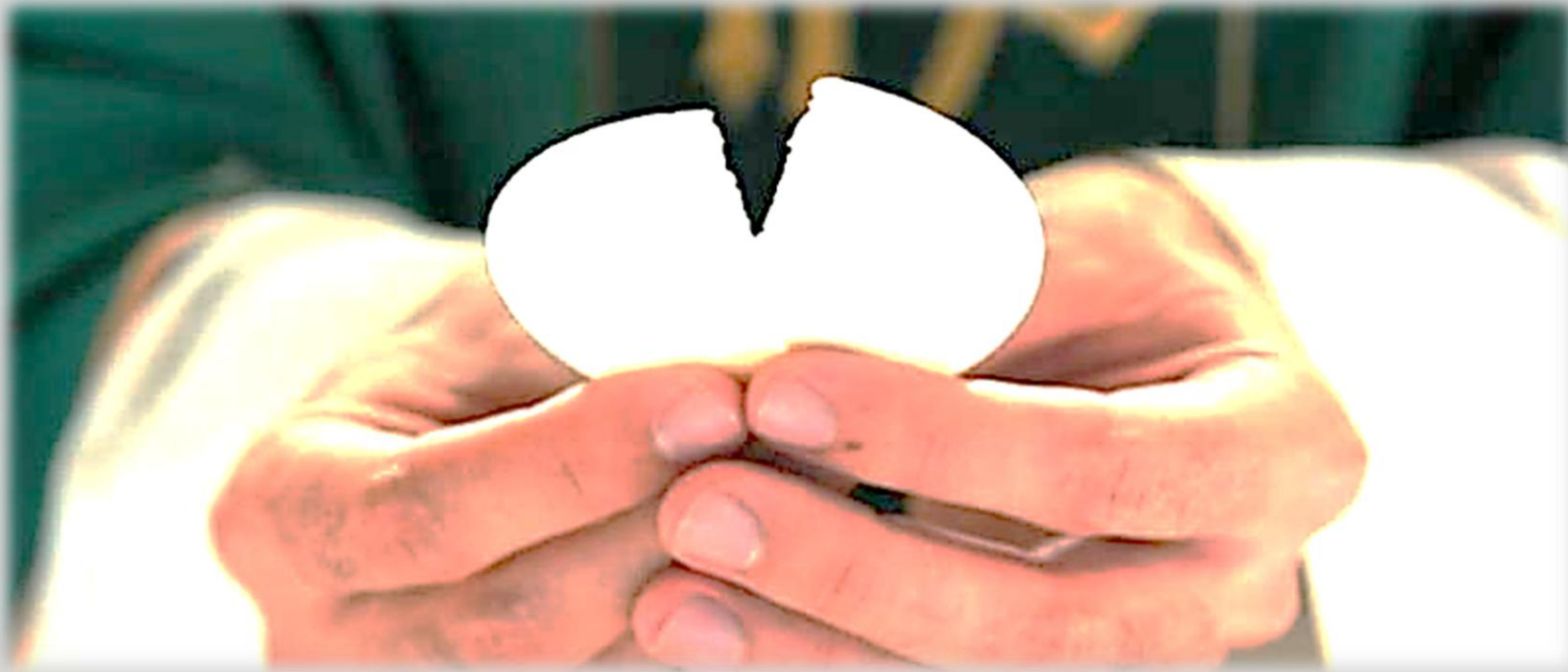
**Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For the Kingdom, the power and  
the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**Amen**



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.**

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.



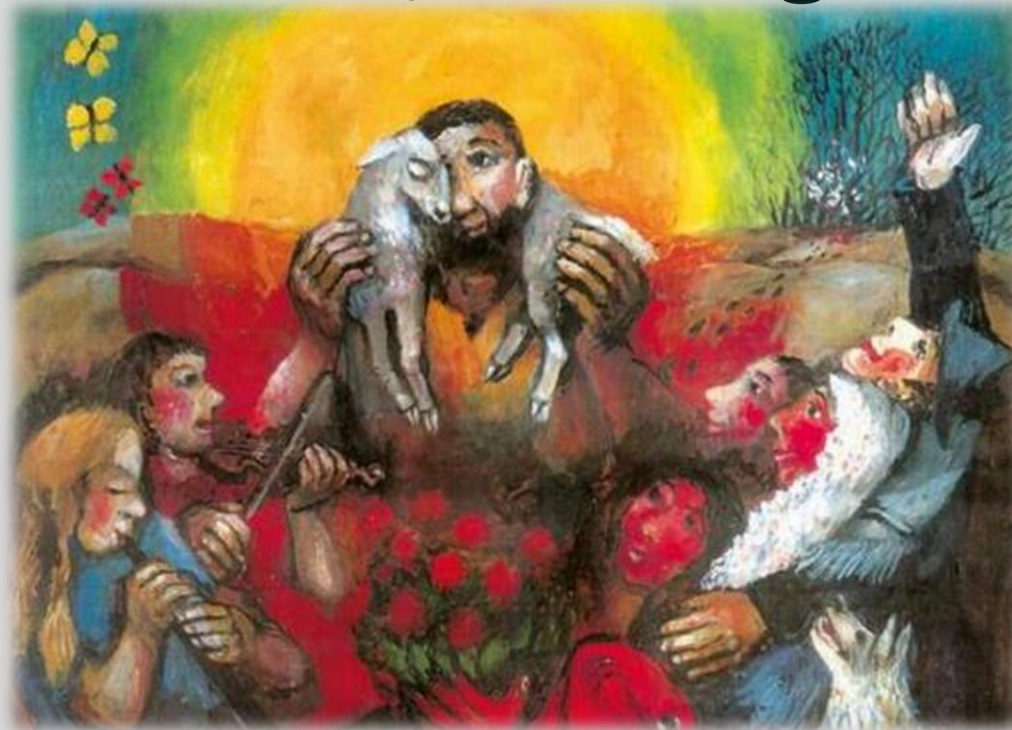
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died  
for you and feed on him in your hearts by  
faith with thanksgiving.



**Most merciful Lord  
your love compels us to come in.  
Our hands were unclean our hearts were unprepared  
we were not fit even to eat  
the crumbs under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation  
and share your bread with sinners.**



**So cleanse and feed us  
with the precious body and blood of your Son  
that he may live in us and we in him  
and that we, with the whole company of Christ  
may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen**





Together we sing –

**Jesus, Lamb of God,  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins  
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world  
give us your peace.**







# I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

Receiving the bread and wine





# Anthem

‘O for a closer walk’

Charles V Stanford



# I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

Receiving the bread and wine



## **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord of all time and eternity,  
you open the heavens  
and revealed yourself as Father  
in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son:  
by the power of your Spirit,  
complete the heavenly work of our re-birth  
through the waters of the new creation  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
**Amen**

**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**



What is  
going on?

Family News



**God's Work  
Our Hands**

**1The kingdom of God  
is justice and joy  
for Jesus restores  
what sin would destroy  
God's power and glory  
in Jesus we know  
and here and hereafter  
the kingdom shall grow.**





**2The kingdom of God  
is mercy and grace  
the captives are freed  
the sinners find place  
the outcast are welcomed  
God's banquet to share  
and hope is awakened  
in place of despair.**



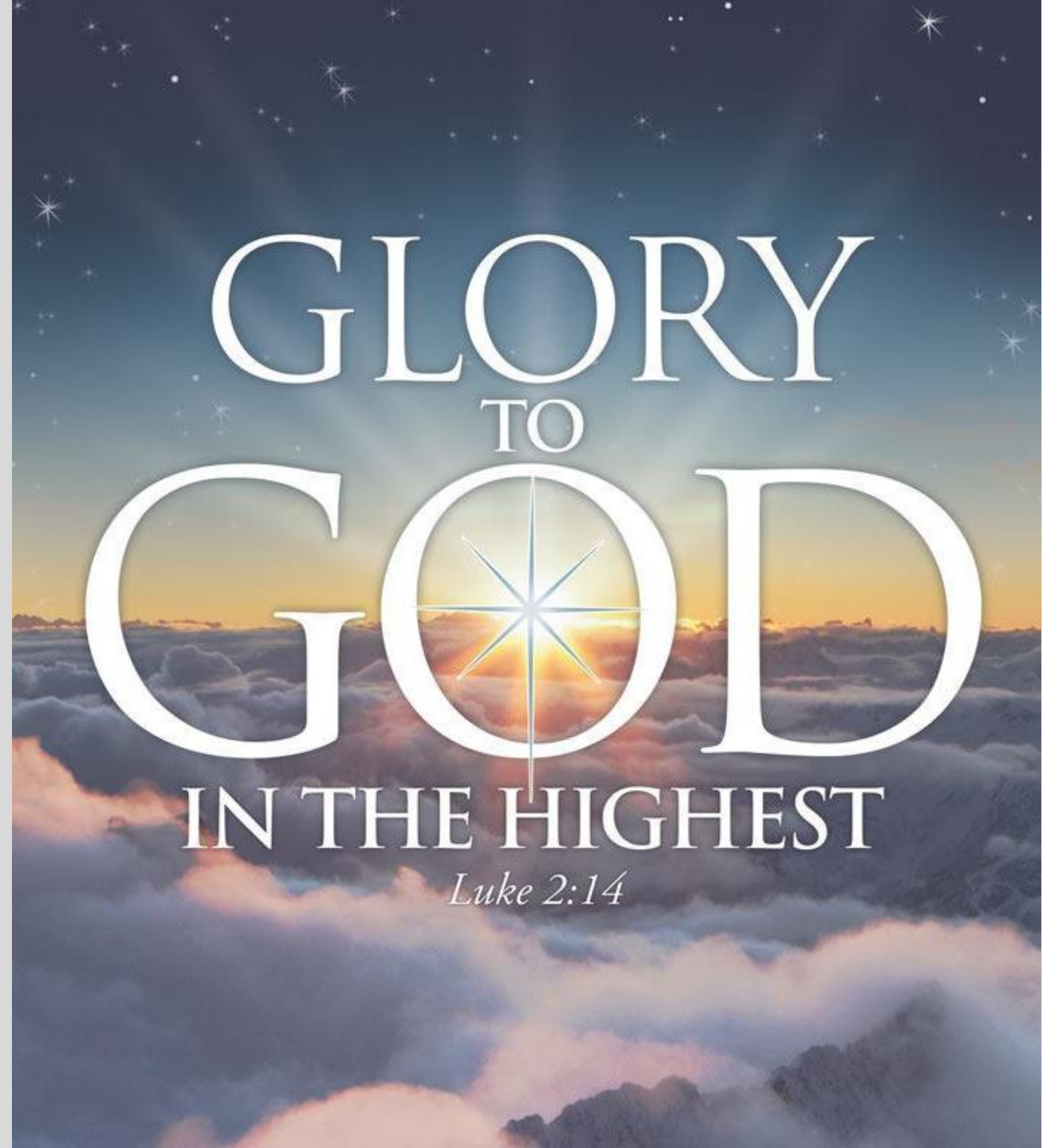
**3 The kingdom of God  
is challenge and choice  
believe the good news  
repent and rejoice!  
His love for us sinners  
brought Christ to his cross  
our crisis of judgement  
for gain or for loss.**





<sup>4</sup>God's kingdom is come  
the gift and the goal  
in Jesus begun  
in heaven made whole  
the heirs of the kingdom  
shall answer his call  
and all things cry 'Glory!'  
to God all in all.

4/4 Bryan A Rees (1911-1983)



Christ the Son of God,  
perfect in you the image of his glory and gladden  
your hearts with the good news of his kingdom:



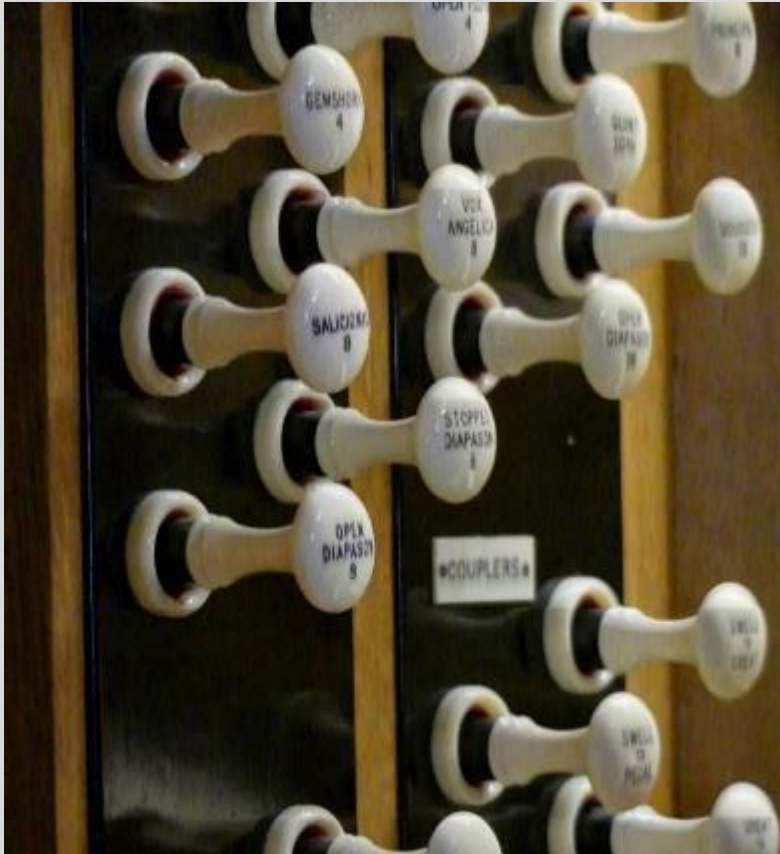
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen**



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





Organ Voluntary



Christ Church Organ

Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam  
BWV 684 – J S Bach