

Sunday 30th August 2026

Christ Church with St Mary's

Service of Holy Communion

**Theme: 'And on the third day
be raised'**



Matthew 16 : 24

We say together the words in **bold**



Welcome and Introduction

Grace, mercy and peace
from
God our Father
and
the Lord Jesus Christ
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**

**1He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster
let him in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.**

1/3



Christian carries his burden

**2 Who so beset him round
with dismal stories
do but themselves confound
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might
though he with giants fight
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.**



**3 Since Lord thou dost defend
us with thy Spirit
we know we at the end
shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away
I'll fear not what men say
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.**

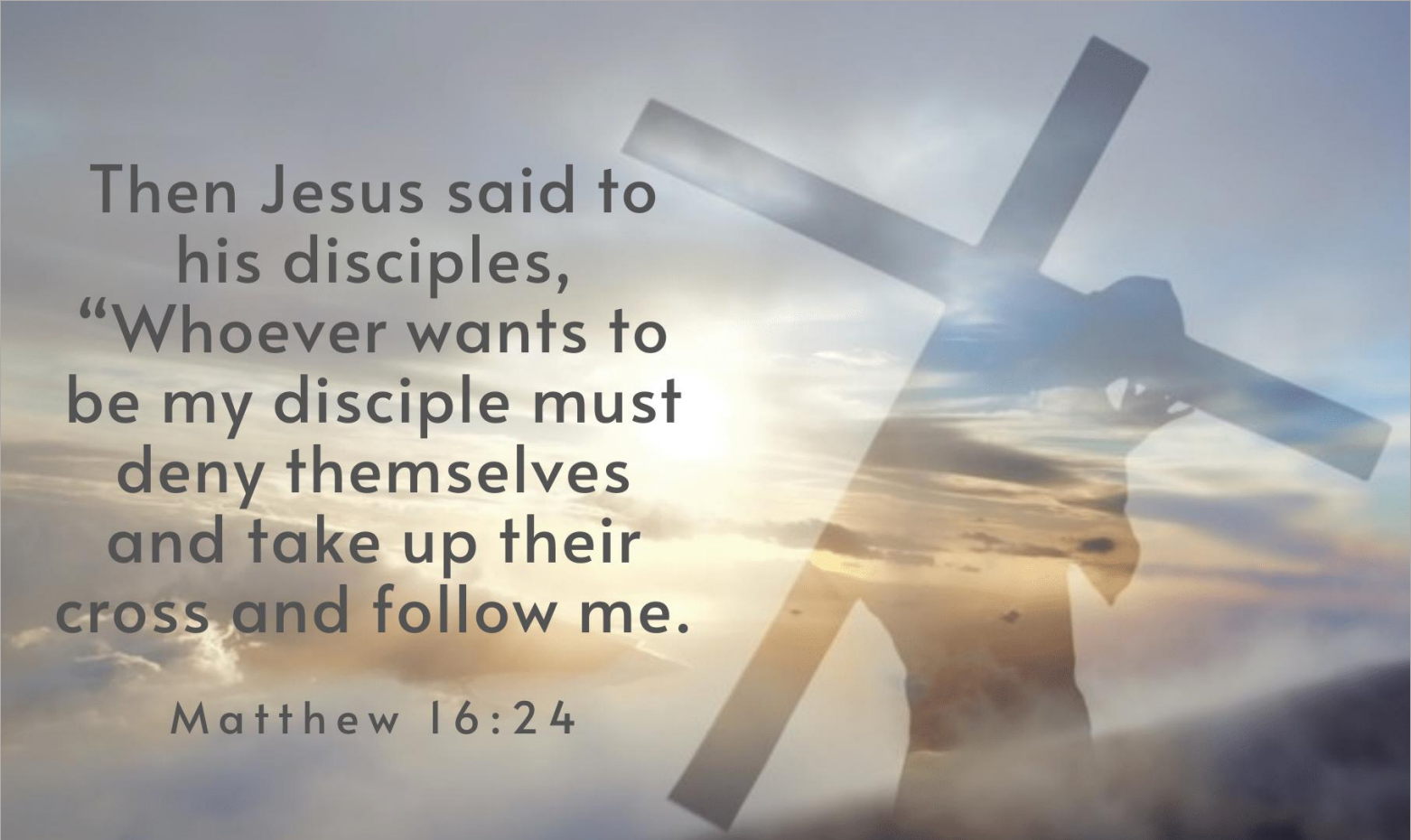
John Bunyan (1628-1688) Percy Dearmer Public Domain

3/3 Windows in Bunyan Meeting Chapel, Bedford





Offertory
and
thank you
prayer



Then Jesus said to
his disciples,
“Whoever wants to
be my disciple must
deny themselves
and take up their
cross and follow me.

Matthew 16:24



Children's Talk– ‘Follow me (not *me*... Jesus!)’



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.**

Prayer of Confession

St Paul says

‘Be imitators of God; love as Christ loved
do not grieve the Holy Spirit
put away all anger and bitterness,
all slander and malice’.

So let us confess our sins to God
who forgives us in Christ.

**God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong we have thought
and said and done and are mindful of all
that we have failed to do.**

**For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and help us to live each
day in the light of Christ our Lord.**

Amen

May the God of love
bring us back to himself,
forgive us our sins
and assure us of his
eternal love in
Jesus 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.**



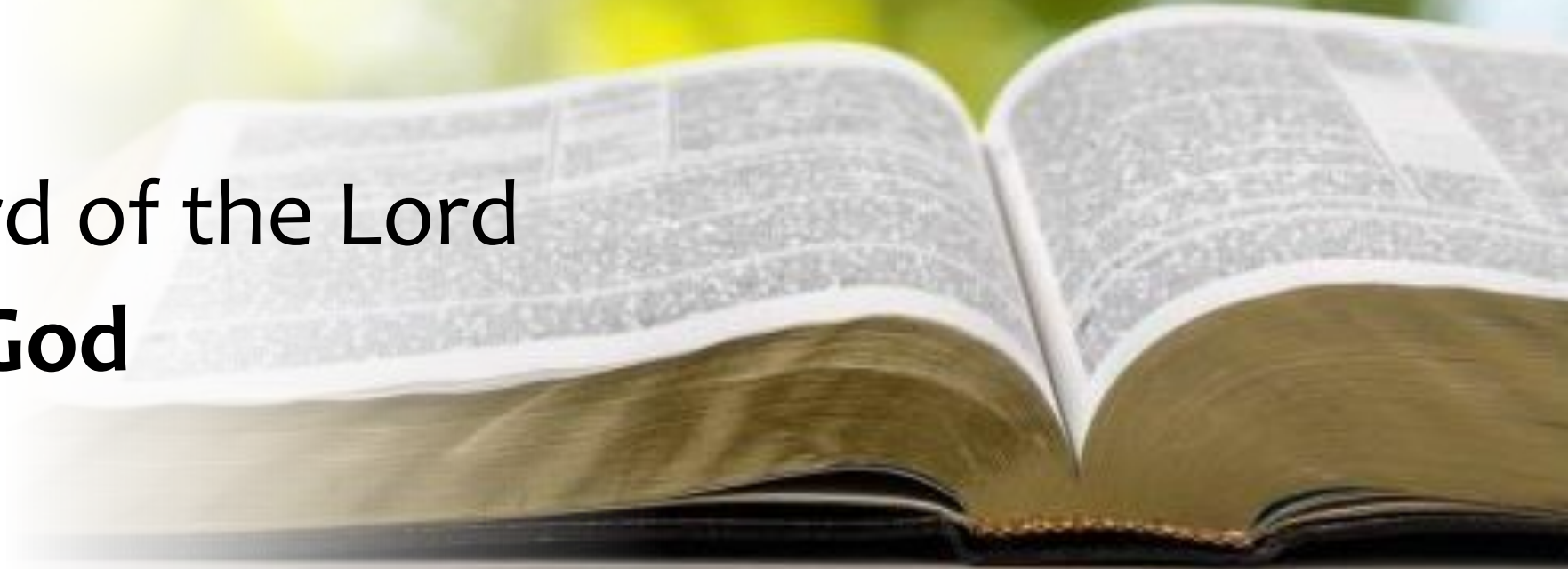
The Collect prayer for today

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Romans 12 : 19 - 21

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



**¹Be still for the presence of the Lord
the Holy One is here.
Come bow before him now
with reverence and fear.**

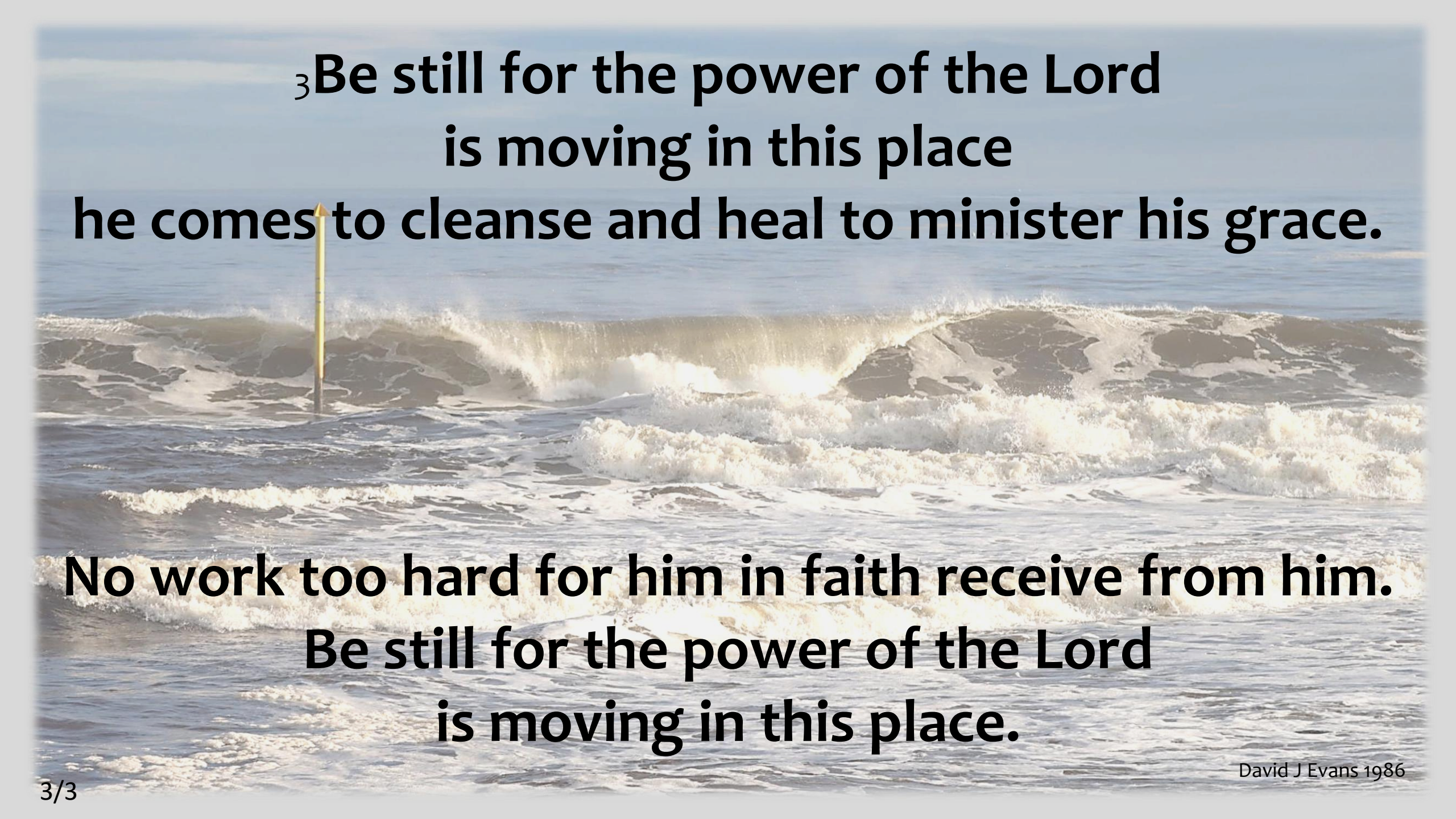


**In him no sin is found we stand on holy ground.
Be still for the presence of the Lord
the Holy One is here.**

**²Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around
he burns with holy fire with splendour he is crowned.**



**How awesome is the sight our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.**

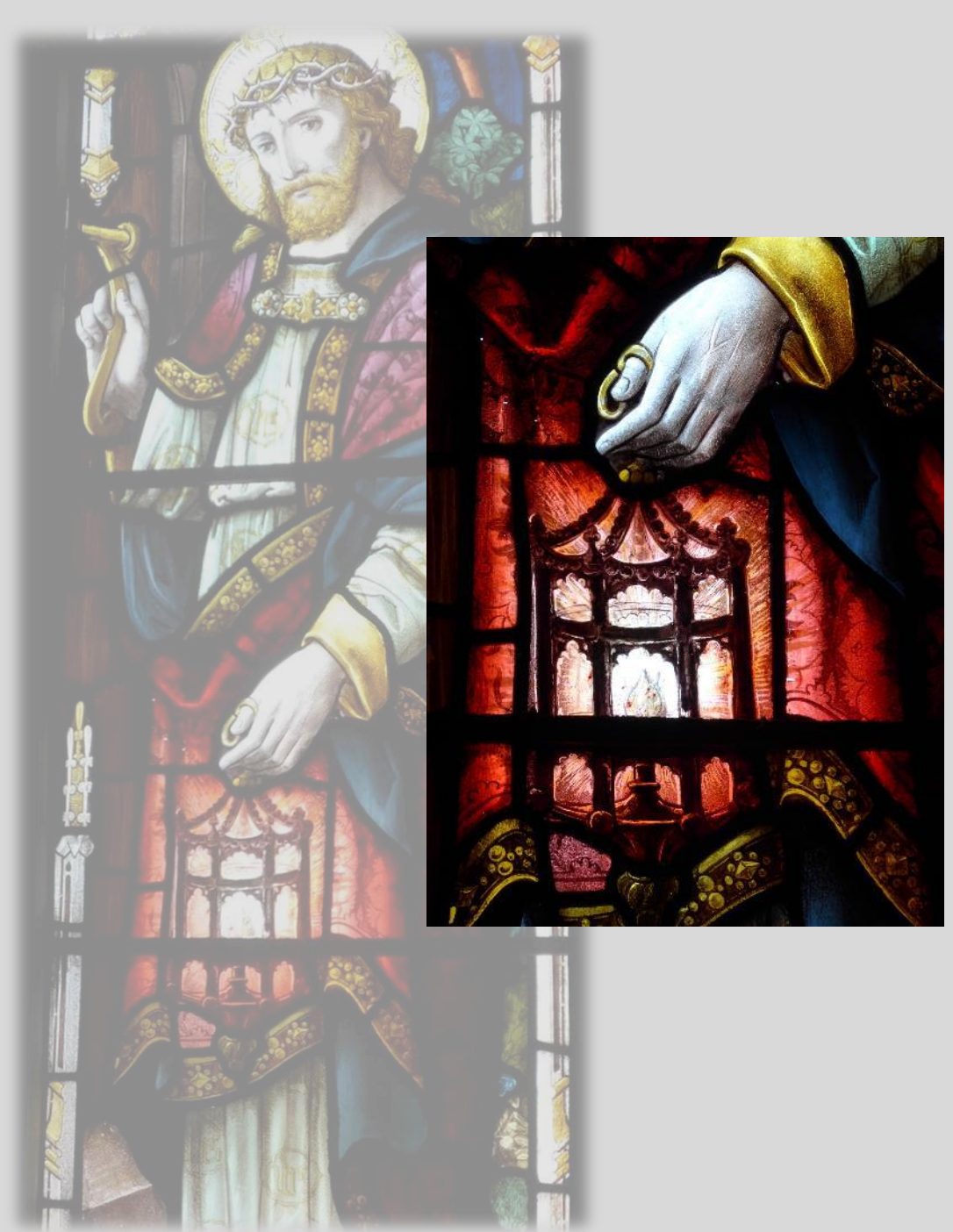
A photograph of a beach with waves crashing. A yellow flag is visible in the water on the left side. The text is overlaid on the image.

**3 Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place
he comes to cleanse and heal to minister his grace.**

**No work too hard for him in faith receive from him.
Be still for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.**

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the Light of the
World, says the Lord.
Whoever follows me
will never walk in
darkness but will have
the light of life.

Alleluia

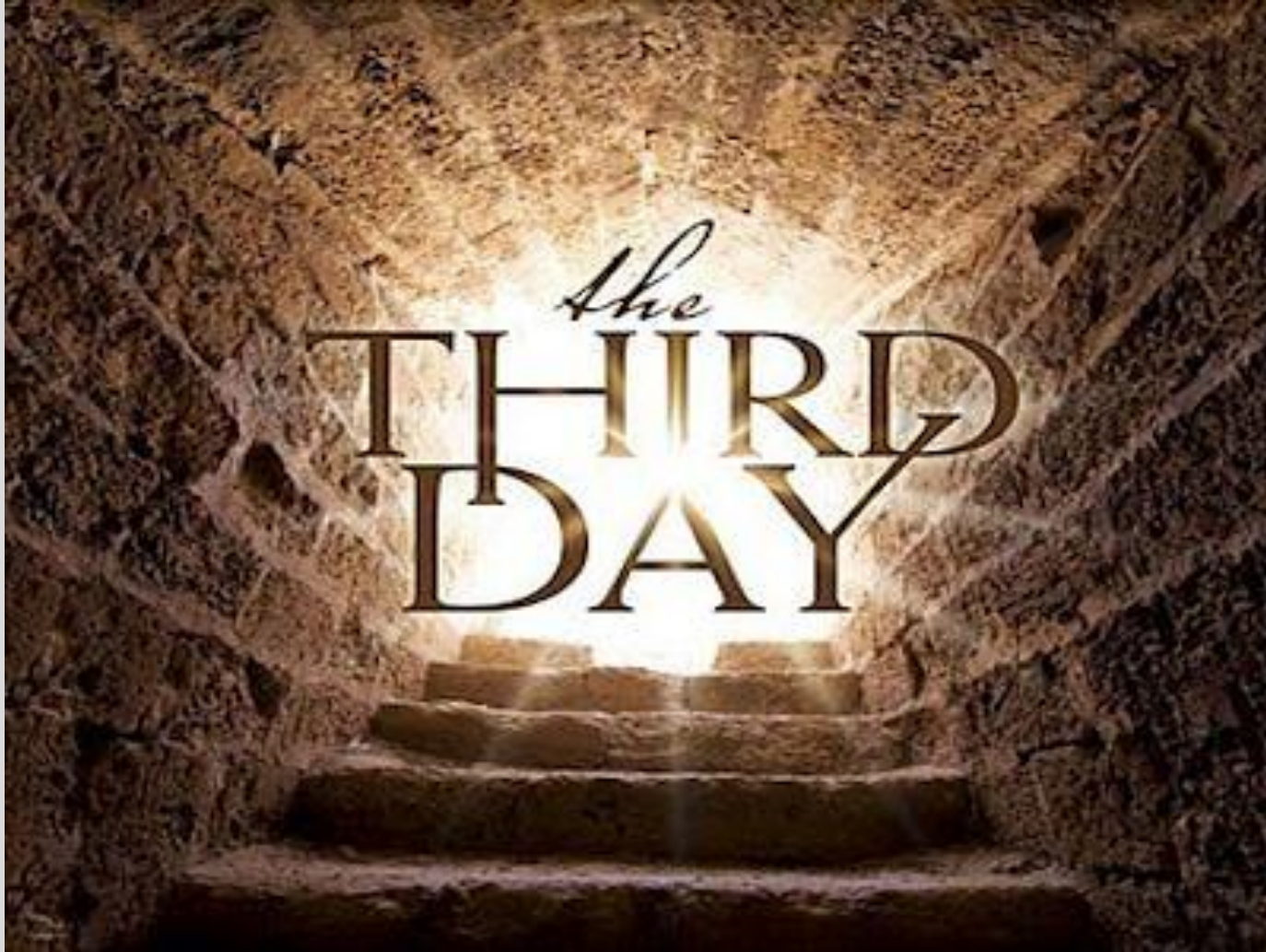


Hear the Gospel of
our Lord Jesus Christ
according to.....
Glory to you O Lord

Matthew 16 : 21 - 28

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





Sermon – ‘And on the third day be raised’

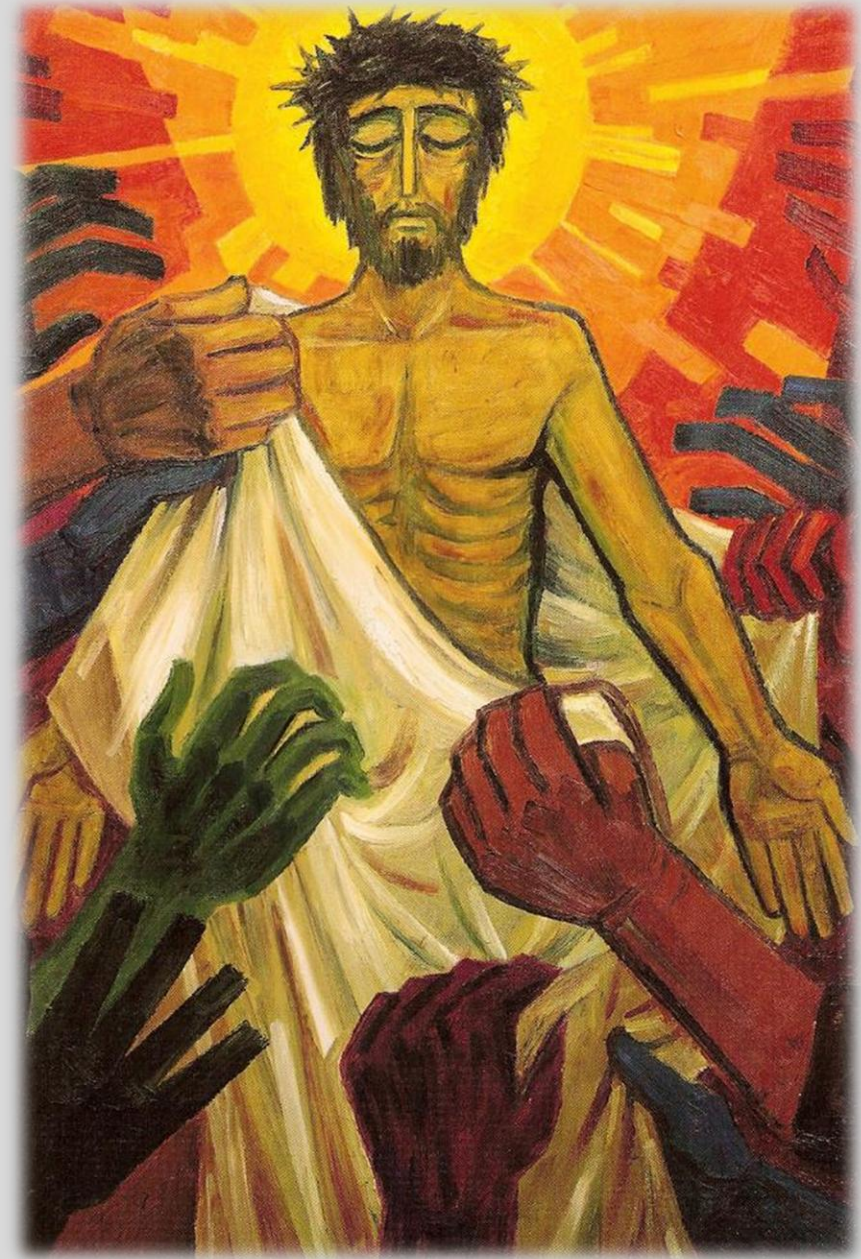
The Creed

**We believe in God the Father
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being
all created things began.**

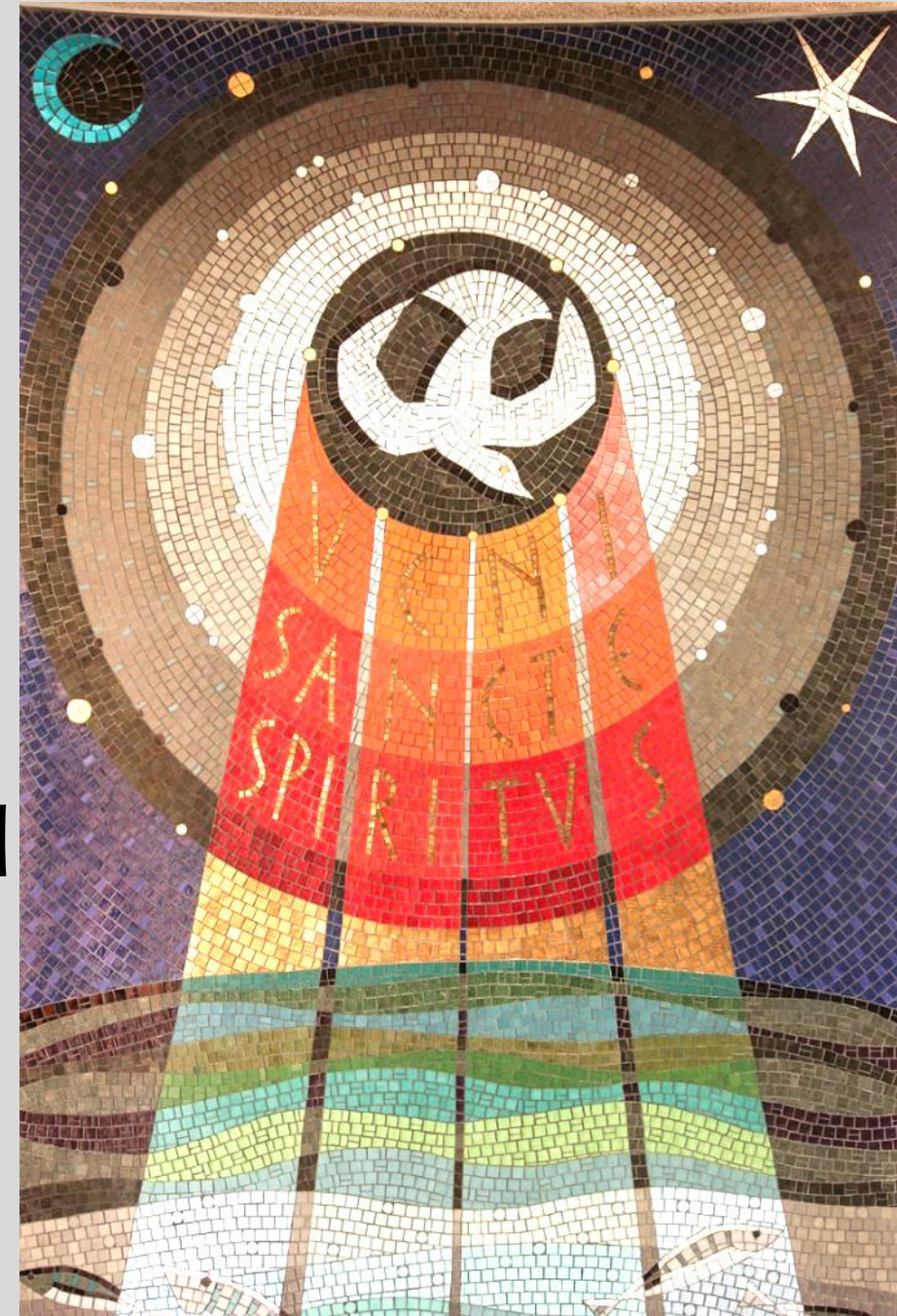
**We believe in Christ the Saviour
Son of God in human frame
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**



**Christ, who on the cross forsaken
like a lamb to slaughter led
suffered under Pontius Pilate
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen
heaven's king to rule and reign
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**



**We believe in God the Spirit
in one Church, below, above
saints of God in one communion
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end.**

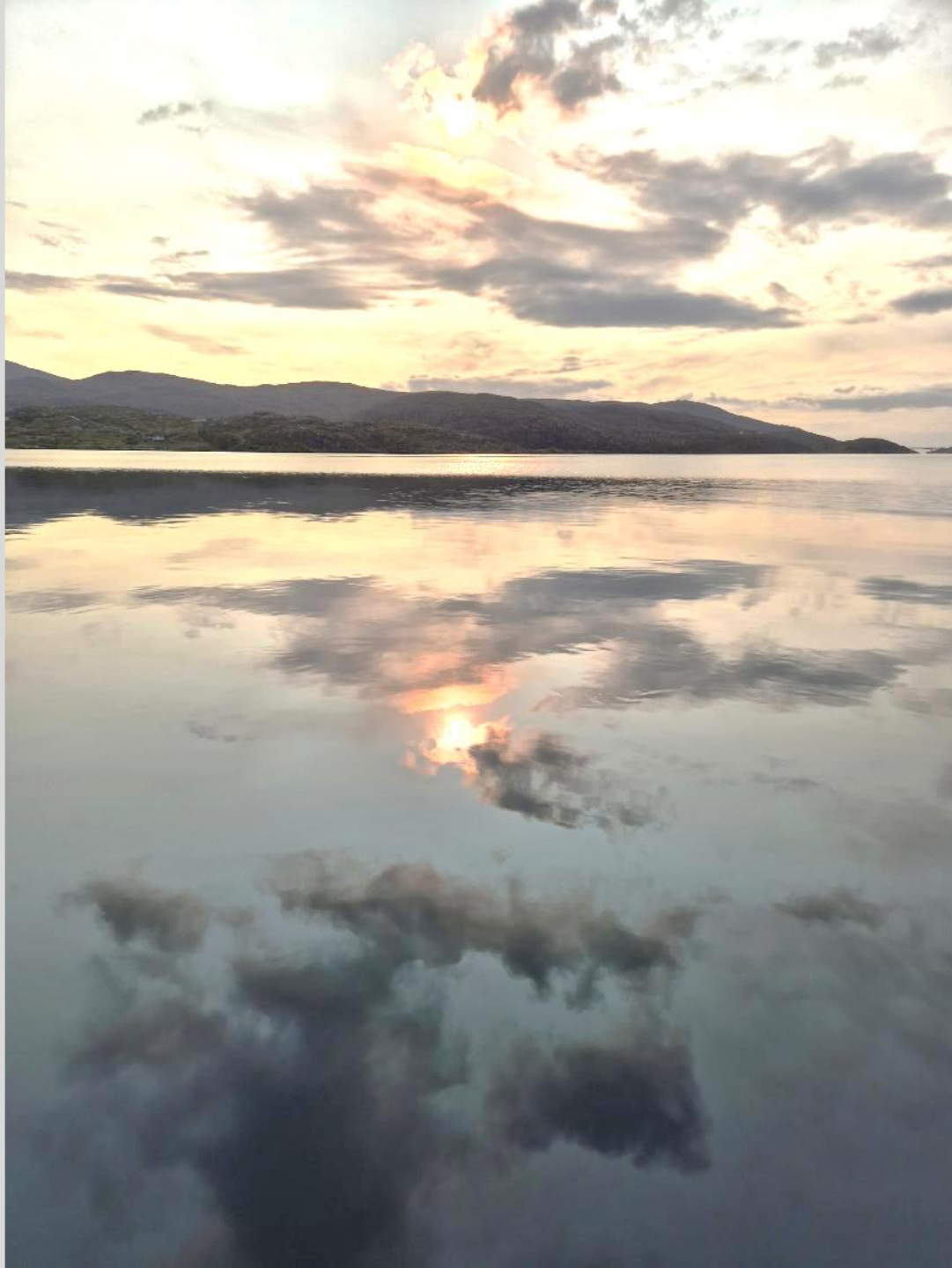


Prayers of Intercession



Final Response

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



The Peace

God is love and those who
live in love live in God
and God lives in them.

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

**¹O thou who camest from above
the fire celestial to impart
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.**

**²There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**



**³Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee
still let me guard the holy fire
and still stir up the gift in me.**

**⁴Ready for all thy perfect will
my acts of faith and love repeat
till death thy endless mercies seal
and make the sacrifice complete.**



Pour upon the poverty of our love
and the weakness of our praise,
the transforming fire of your presence.

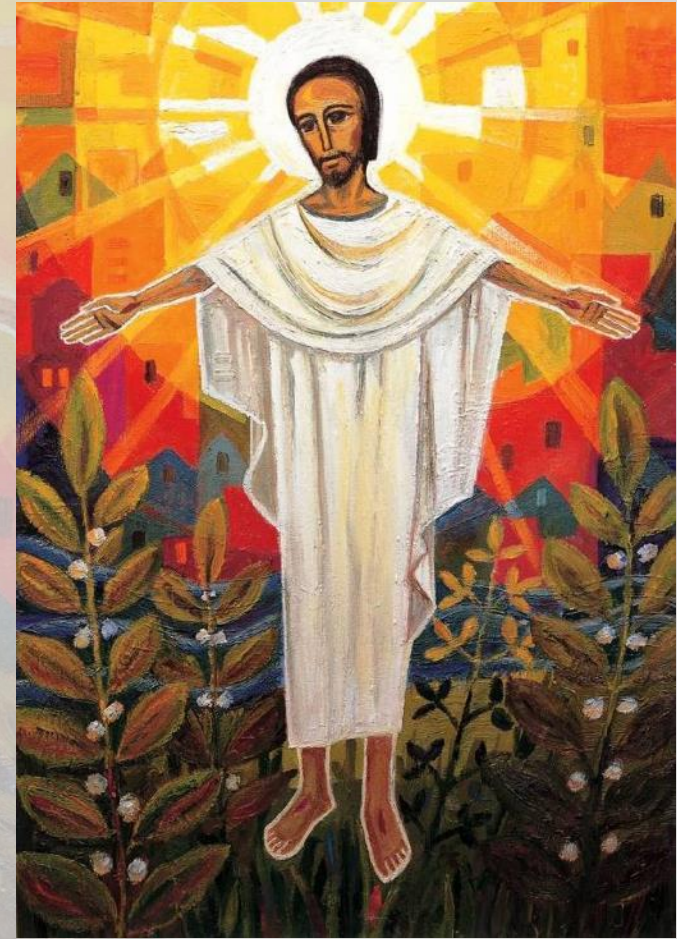
Amen



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 right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away you did not reject us
but came to meet us in your Son.



**You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.



**He opened his arms of love upon the cross
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed, at supper with his friends
he took bread and gave you thanks
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you
do this in remembrance of me.



**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper,
taking the cup of wine, he gave you thanks and said:
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.



**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

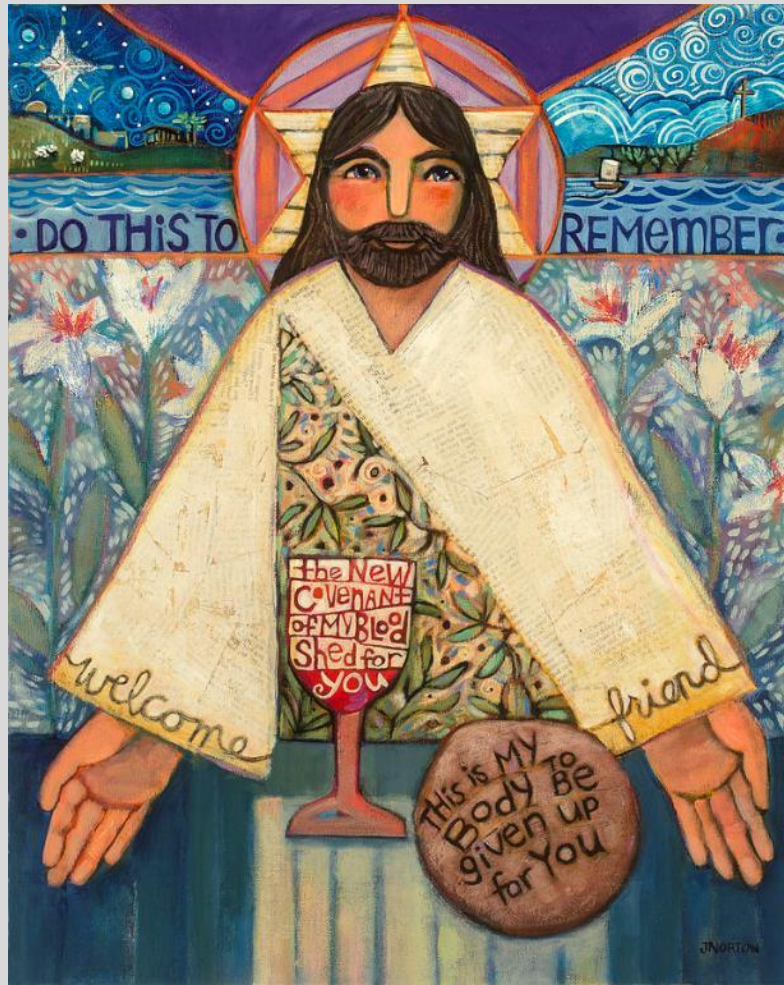
As we proclaim his death
and celebrate his rising in glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.



**As we eat and drink these holy gifts
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**



With your whole Church throughout the world
we offer you this sacrifice of praise
and lift our voice to join
the eternal song of heaven:



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

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.**

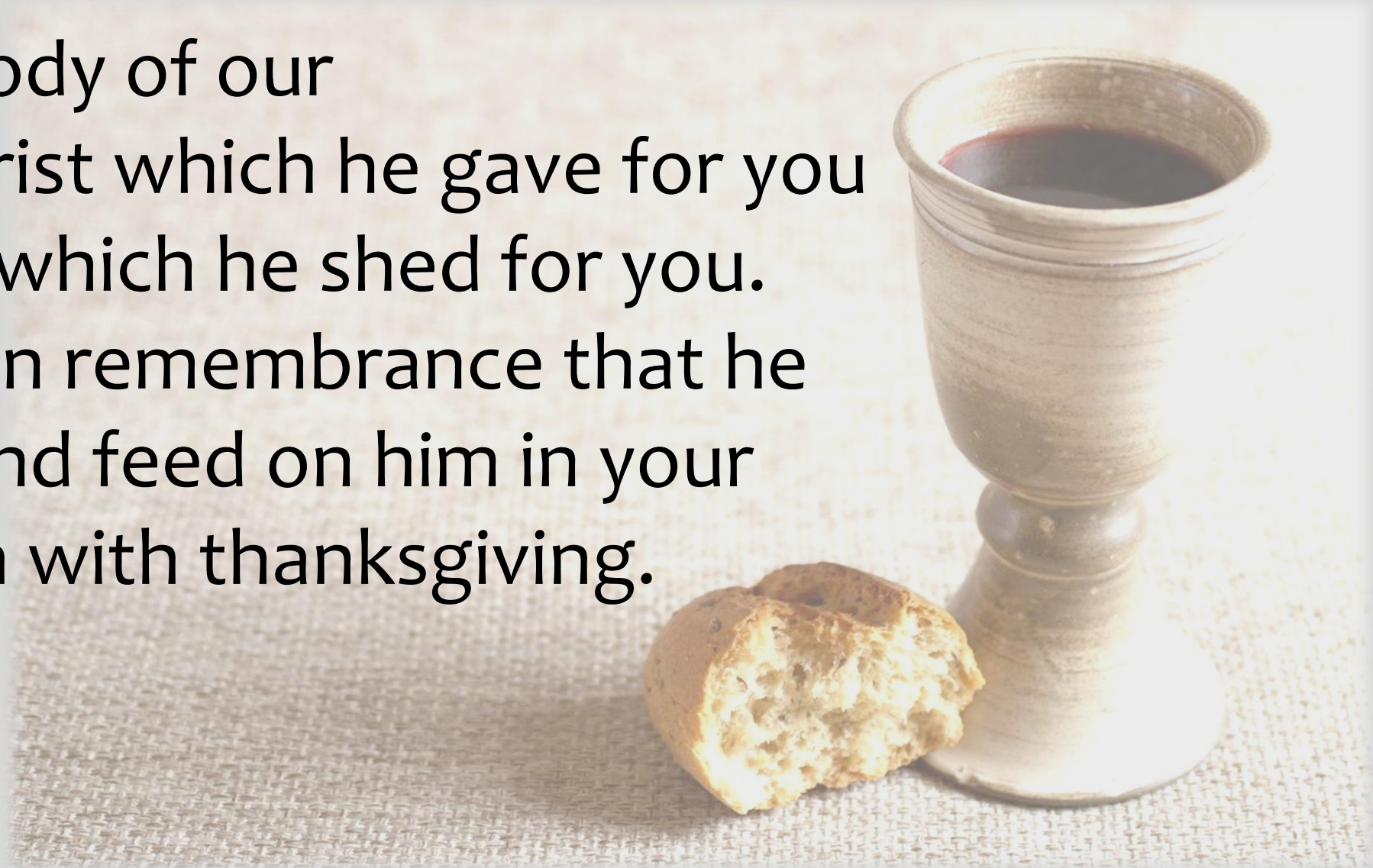
Amen

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.





**We do not presume to come to this your table,
O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your manifold and great mercies.**

**We are not worthy so much as to
gather up the crumbs under your table.**

**But you are the same Lord
whose nature is always to have mercy.**

**Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
so to eat the flesh of your dear Son
Jesus Christ and to drink his blood,
that our sinful bodies may be made
clean by his body and our souls
washed through his most precious
blood and that we may evermore
dwell in him and he in us.**

Amen



We sing together –

**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.**



A close-up photograph of a large, rustic loaf of bread with a golden-brown, cracked crust. In the background, two more loaves of bread are visible, and a few wheat stalks lie on the wooden surface. The scene is set on a dark, textured wooden table.

Jesus Is the Bread of Life

Receiving the bread and wine

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through
our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**We thank you, Lord,
that you have fed us with this sacrament,
united us with Christ and given us a foretaste
of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples.**



Amen

What is
going on ?

Family News



God's work. Our hands.



**¹Brother, sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**

**²We are pilgrims on a journey
fellow trav'lers on the road.
We are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.**



**3 I will hold the Christ–light for you
in the night time of your fear.
I will hold my hand out to you
speak the peace you long to hear.**

**4 I will weep when you are weeping
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.**



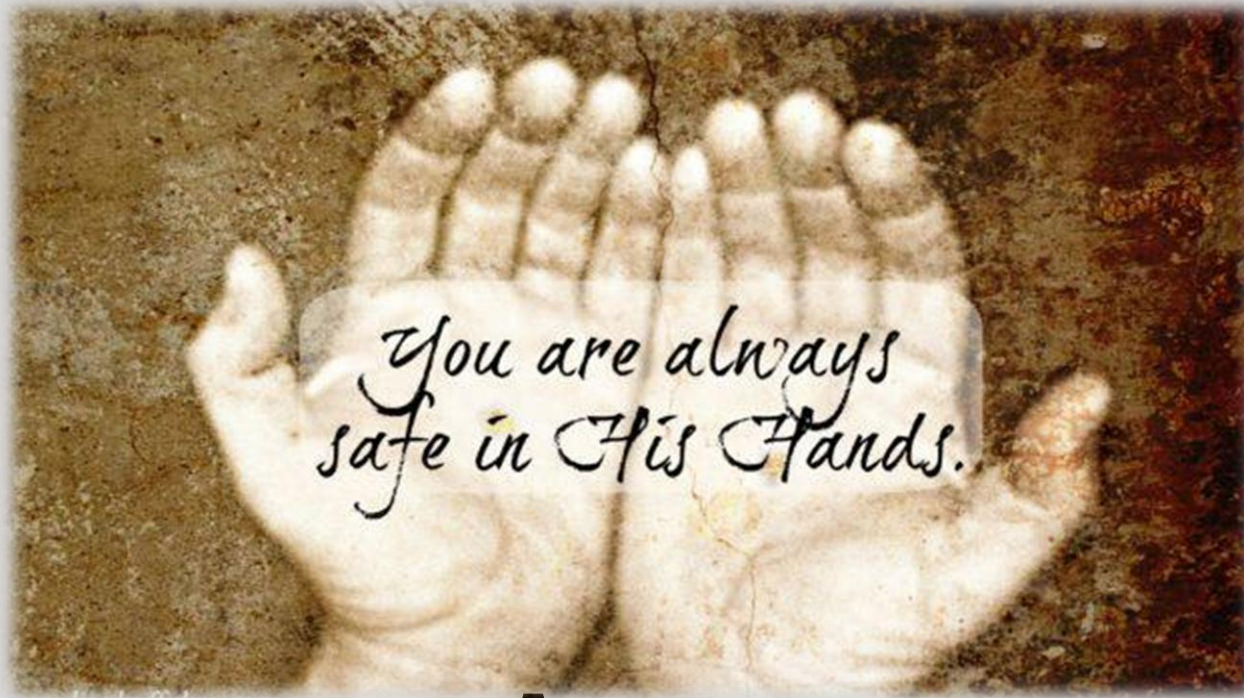
**5 When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony.
Born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.**



**6 Brother, sister, let me serve you
let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.**



You are called and loved by God the Father
and kept safe by Jesus Christ.
Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance,
from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.



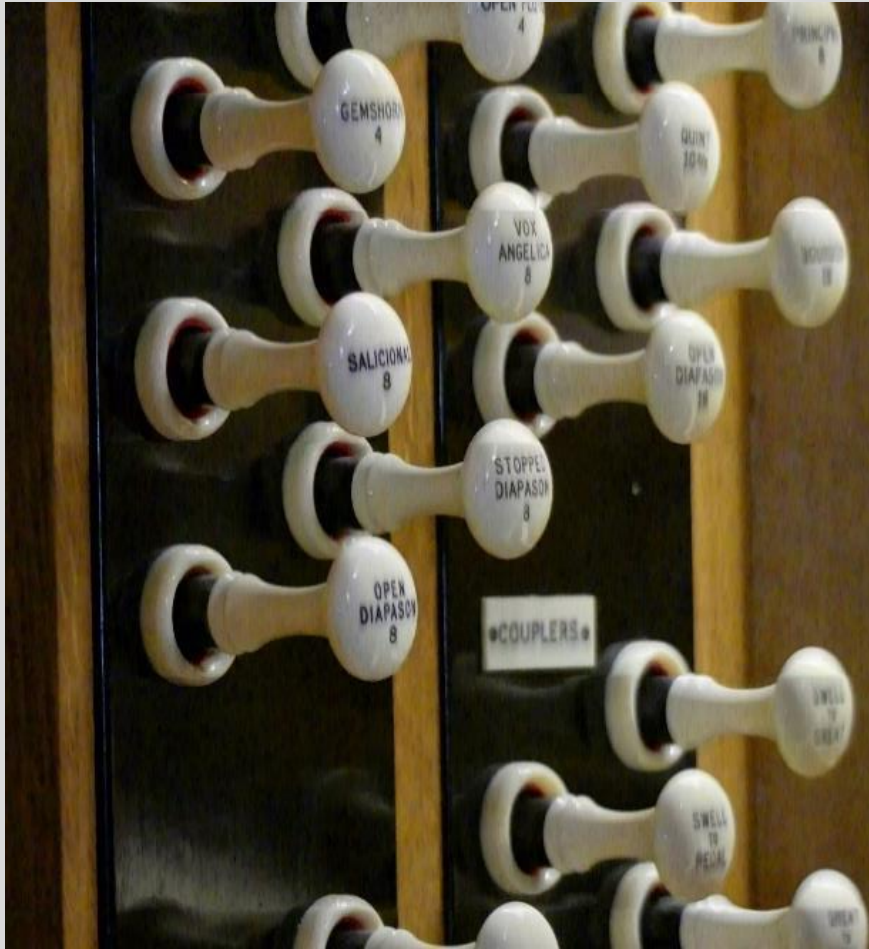
Amen

The Blessing

Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ
Amen





Christ Church Organ

Organ Voluntary – Prelude in C BWV547 – J S Bach