



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland**

Sunday 11th May 2025

Fourth of Easter

You were the Word at the beginning

One With God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You Our Christ

*What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus*

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

*What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus*

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silenced the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God you reign
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

*What a powerful Name it is, What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is, Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus
(Hillsong Worship)*

Call to Worship
(inspired by Revelation 7:12)

We praise Creation's God:

Blessing and honour, glory and power!

Let each single voice praise God:

Blessing and honour, glory and power!

Let all voices together praise God:

Blessing and honour, glory and power!

Let the great multitude of nations praise God:

Blessing and honour, glory and power!

With all Creation we praise God:

Blessing and honour, glory and power!

written by the Reverend Susan A. Blain

Through Light and Shadow

through light and shadow
I am led, I follow,
through the ins and outs
the ups and downs
of these days,
when my heart is failing,
when my spirit rejoices,
when I can barely put one foot
in front of the other
still you beckon me on...
when I stumble you support me,
when I can go no further
you carry me,
through light and shadow,
in death's dark vale,
and on the mountain peaks
you lead me,
through tangled webs,
on rocky ground,
on smoother paths,
through light and shadow
you lead me,
I follow,
may I never
walk alone...

written by Sally, and posted on **Eternal Echoes**.

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live

A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew
Here the cross shall stand as witness and a symbol of God's grace
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat
A banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet
Here the love of God, through Jesus is revealed in time and space
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach and live the Word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger, bear the image of God's face
Let us bring an end to fear and danger

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter
(Paul Tate / Marty Haugen)

Confession

(inspired by Psalm 23)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

But, O Lord, we are consumed with wanting more.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

But, O Lord, other pastures seem greener.

The waters aren't always still.

Our souls still thirst.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

**O Lord, we long to be led by you,
though we may complain along the path.**

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

And yet, O God, we do sometimes fear.

May we feel your presence, your comfort and your forgiveness anew.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

O God, sometimes we refuse to sit down at your table.

Forgive us and help us to see your overflowing mercy.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Forgive us, God, and lead us into your house. written by Rev. Emily Schlaman Larsen

A reading from the book of the Acts of the Apostles beginning at chapter 9 verse 36

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.'

So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them.

Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive.

This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believers ear,

It soothes their sorrows, heals their wounds, and drives away their fear
It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast
'Tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary, rest
And to the weary, rest

Dear Name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding-place
My never-failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace!
Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest and King
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring
Accept the praise I bring

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought
But when I see you as you are, I'll praise you as I ought
'Til then I would your love proclaim with every fleeting breath
And may the music of your Name refresh my soul in death
Refresh my soul in death!

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!
It soothes their sorrows, heals their wounds, and drives away their fear
And drives away their fear
(Words: John Newton, tune: Chris Bowater)

A reading from the gospel according to John beginning at chapter 10 verse 22

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon.

So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.'

Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

The gospel of the Lord

Thanks be to God

**We believe and know
that Jesus is the Holy One of God.**

**We believe that he is the Christ,
the Son of God,
who was to come into the world.**

**We believe that he is in the Father
and the Father is in him.**

**We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of God,
and that by believing
we have life in his name. Amen.**

written by Michael Perry

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want

He makes me lie in pastures green
He leads me by the still, still waters
His goodness restores my soul

*And I will trust in You alone
And I will trust in You alone
For Your endless mercy follows me
Your goodness will lead me home*

He guides my ways in righteousness
And He anoints my head with oil
And my cup, it overflows with joy
I feast on His pure delights

And though I walk the darkest path
I will not fear the evil one
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know
(Stuart Townend)

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

God in community, holy in one,
We pray together the prayer of your Kingdom

**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.**

You have called us out of darkest night

Into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of
The risen Christ

May our every breath retell the grace
That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy
With endless life

*May the peoples praise You
Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes
That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus*

All the earth is Yours and all within
Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You
To make Christ known

May the seeds of mercy grow in us
For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace
To spread Your Word

This our holy priv'lege to declare
Your praises and Your name
To every nation tribe and tongue
Your church proclaim

Holy Holy is the Lord Al-mighty
Worthy worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name
(Keith & Kristin Getty)

Psalm 23 Blessing

In the lush pastures of life that hold meeting places with love,
may your feet know the way to find them.

By the still waters of the running stream,
may your hands shape a cup it and drink deep from it.

In the valley of death's shadow that ever threatens,
may your sense of life find the way through.

At the banqueting table set before your enemies,
may your cup be full and overrunning.

Like the anointing oil that runs down your head,
may the blessing that is you spill into the world with eternal promise.

In the way a shepherd's staff warms off lameness from fear,
may trust be your protective companion on the way.

Through each day's living as it unfolds,
may goodness and mercy make their way into every moment.

At the doorway to the house of the Lord of life,
may you recognise your home and your hearth.

And in the song that makes a dwelling-place in your heart,
may its music rise in your soul.
(written by Roddy Hamilton)

Father teach us, lead and guide us

The strength of your word will see us through
Come Holy Spirit, inspire from within
And forevermore we'll follow You

*So bless everyone Lord, O bless us all
The strong and the weak, with their backs to the wall
Bless us O Lord, O bless us all
The high and the mighty and those who might fall
Bless you all*

May you always feel His peace in your heart
May you know He's watching over you
May you always have His wind in your sails
And follow His chosen course true

Take our hands and guide us now
Show us the best of our ways
Shine your light on the dark in our lives
We'll be Yours till the end of our days

If it seems like the worst and darkest of times
Feeling empty and aching inside
If you think every day, nothing fits, nothing rhymes
Just remember, He's right there beside

*So bless everyone Lord, O bless us all
In houses or hovels or no homes at all
Bless us O Lord, O bless us all
The rich and the poor, those with nothing at all
Bless you all
(Nick Moore)*

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