



St Edmund's Church Taverham

and St Peter's Church Ringland

10th August 2025

Hear our cry, Lord, we pray

Our faces down, our hands are raised
You called us out, we turned away
We've turned away

With shipwrecked faith the idols rise
We do what is right in our own eyes
Our children now will pay the price
We need Your light, Lord, shine Your light

*If we've ever needed You
Lord, it's now, Lord, it's now
We are desperate for Your hand
We're reaching out, we're reaching out*

All our hearts, all our strength
With all our minds, we're at Your feet
May Your kingdom come in our hearts and lives
Let Your church arise, let Your church arise

Our hope is lost, our heads are bowed
We revere the cross, still we're cowed
We need your hands, raise us high
Revive us now, we will arise

We need You now
Revive us now
(Casting Crowns)

Call to Worship Litany

(based on Psalm 33)

Come rejoice, all you who love and serve the Lord!

Sing songs and hymns of praise;
Let's celebrate together in God's presence!
For the word of the Lord holds true forever,
and everything he does is worthy of our trust.

Let all the earth stand in awe of our God,
for he spoke, and the world came into being;
he breathed, and the heavens were born.

God shatters the plans of the nations,
and frustrates all their schemes.

But the plans of our Maker stand firm forever;
God's intentions are unshakeable.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
whose people are known by God's name.

Let your unfailing love surround us, O God,
for our hope is in you alone.

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

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds in a believer's 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)

Trusting in God's tender mercy, we open ourselves in honesty to God.

**God of Love,
when your children suffer,
are displaced,
persecuted, or worse
your heart is saddened,
you cry out for justice.
When apathy dulls our hearts
and we do not speak out,
forgive us.
When we are slow to respond
and lives are lost,
forgive us.
Give us a heart for justice
and a prophetic voice,
that this world might see
your love in action
through our lives and words.
(John Birch)**

Dearly Beloved, by the grace we know in Christ,
we can be assured that all our sins are entirely forgiven,
and we are set free to live by the grace of the Holy Spirit
now and to eternal life. Amen.
(UnfoldingLight)

God in community, holy in One, we pray as Jesus has taught us saying,

**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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah beginning at chapter 1 verse 1

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord ,
you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the Lord ; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.
When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?
Trample my courts no more;
bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath
and calling of convocation-
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. Your new moons and your appointed
festival; my soul hates; they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.
When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil
of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice,
rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.
Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord : though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.
If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair

Lord in Your suffering, this is our prayer
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset, Your kingdom increase

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills
Work for the craftsmen, trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak

*God of the poor, friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain
Come change our love from a spark to a flame*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear
Cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share
Peace to the killing fields, scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams
Lord end our madness, carelessness, greed
Make us content with the things that we need

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame
Until Your justice burns brightly again
Until the nations learn of Your ways
Seek Your salvation and bring You their praise
(Graham Kendrick)

A reading from the gospel according to Luke beginning at chapter 12 verse 32

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into.

You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

All the room was hushed and still

And when the bowl was filled
He stooped to wash their feet
And when it was complete, he said
This is what I’m asking you to do
This is why I’m kneeling here beside you
This is what I want my church to be
This is what I want the world to see
Who it is you follow

*Love each other, one another
Love each other in the way that I have loved you
Walk together, and whatever comes
Love each other in the way that I have loved you*

Let the room be hushed and still
Let us go to where he kneels
And join him as he serves
And learn his ways of love
He said, this is what I'm asking you to do
This is why I'm kneeling here beside you
This is what I want my church to be
This is what I want the world to see
Who it is you follow
(Graham Kendrick)

We believe in God the Father, who sent Jesus into the world to show us the true nature of God.

We believe in Jesus, the Son of God, who showed his love for us by dying on the cross and rising to new life.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

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

May the blessing of the three-in-one God be yours. Amen.

Happy are they who know where the real treasure is to be found.

Happy are they who take from the treasure and share it.

O Jesus, I have promised, to serve thee to the end

Be thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend
I shall not fear the battle, if thou art by my side
Nor wander from the pathway, if thou wilt be my Guide

O let me feel thee near me, the world is ever near
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear
My foes are ever near me, around me and within
But, Jesus, draw thou nearer and shield my soul from sin

O let me hear thee speaking, in accents clear and still
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control
O speak and make me listen, thou Guardian of my soul

O Jesus, thou hast promised, to all who follow thee
That where thou art in glory, there shall thy servant be
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end
O give me grace to follow my Master and my Friend

O let me see thy footmarks and in them plant mine own
My hope to follow duly is in thy strength alone
O guide me, call me, draw me, uphold me to the end
And then in heaven receive me my Saviour and my Friend
(Traditional)

Friends of God,
prepare to leave this church with spirits lighter than when you came in;

**Trusting Christ to take an intimate interest
in the costly investment he has made.**

Invest in others as his love has invested in you;
Rejoicing in the fellowship of his Spirit.

The blessing of the eternal God is upon you:
redeeming grace,
enfolding love,
enduring fellowship.
Now and forever.

Amen!

(written by Bruce Prewer)

For anyone who's prayed a thousand prayers

And still can't find the answer anywhere
Fighting off the lie that no one cares

For anyone who's out there losing hope
Feeling you're forsaken and alone
Clinging to the last strands of your rope

*May God give you eyes to see He's still greater
Courage to rise and believe He's able
May God be your peace in the fire you're walking through
This is our prayer now
This is our prayer for you*

For all of those with tired and weary souls
But still have faith to ask for miracles
Choosing to believe He's in control

May your eyes be ever on the Lord, your helper
May you find your refuge in the Lord, your shelter
May you find Him closer than a brother all your days
All of your days!
(Jessica Campbell Waterman, Michael Farren)

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