



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

8th March 2026

Wonderful Merciful Saviour,

Precious Redeemer and Friend
Who would have thought that a Lamb could
Rescue the souls of all
Oh You rescue the souls of all

Counsellor, Comforter, Keeper
Spirit we long to embrace
You offer hope when our hearts have
Hopelessly lost the way
Oh we hopelessly lost the way

*You are the One that we praise
You are the One we adore
You give the healing and grace our
Hearts always hunger for
Oh our hearts always hunger for*

Almighty infinite Father
Faithfully loving Your own
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne
Oh we're falling before Your throne
(Dawn Rodgers & Eric Wyse)

A candle is lit.
✙ In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God welcomes all, strangers and friends

God's love is strong and it never ends

Alleluia, alleluia
Alleluia, alleluia
(John Bell)

The love of God comes close, where stands an open door

To let the stranger in, to mingle rich and poor
The love of God is here to stay
Embracing those who walk the way

The peace of God comes close, to those caught in the storm
Forgoing lives of ease, to ease the lives forlorn
The peace of God is here to stay
Embracing those who walk the way

The joy of God comes close, where faith encounters fears
Where heights and depths of life are found through smiles and tears
The joy of God is here to stay
Embracing those who walk the way

The grace of God comes close, to those whose grace is spent
When hearts are tired or sore and hope is bruised or bent
The grace of God is here to stay
Embracing those who walk the way

The Son of God comes close, where people praise His name
Where bread and wine are blest and shared as when He came
The Son of God is here to stay
Embracing those who walk the way
(John L Bell & Graham Maule)

Call to Worship

Opening sentences

**One thing I have asked of the Lord,
this is what I seek;
that I may dwell in the house
of the Lord
all the days of my life;
to behold the beauty of the Lord
and to seek Him in His temple.**

Who is it that you seek?

We seek the Lord our God.

Do you seek Him with all
your heart?

Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Call Do you seek Him with all your soul?

Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek Him with all
your mind?

Amen, Lord, have mercy.

Do you seek Him with all
your strength?
Amen, Christ, have mercy.

Come, let us sing to Yahweh;
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come into the Divine presence with thanksgiving;
Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!
It is good to give you thanks, O Yahweh;
To sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
to the music of the lute and harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
For you, O God, have made us glad by your work;
At the works of your hands we sing for joy.

Holy, Creating, Creative God,
We sing from the depths of our sorrow.
We sing from the abundance of our joy.
We sing in voices separate and unique.
We sing with one voice as your body.
May the words of our mouths, whether in speech or song,
and the meditations of our hearts, whether in prose or poetry,
be pleasing in your sight. Amen.
(Joanna Harader)

What gift of grace is Jesus, my Redeemer

There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark, but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour, he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price, it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
(CityAlight)

A reading from the gospel according to John beginning at chapter 4 verse 5

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?'

Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband" for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!'

The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.'

Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?'

Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?'

Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

Oh kneel me down again, here at Your feet

Show me how much You love humility
Oh Spirit be the star that leads me to
The humble heart of love I see in You

*You are the God of the broken, the friend of the weak
You wash the feet of the weary, embrace the ones in need
I want to be like You, Jesus, to have this heart in me
You are the God of the humble, You are the humble King*

Walk by my side again, and comfort me
Let me be counsellor and friend to thee
Your grace is raised so high, it shines a light
Upon my lowly heart, now burning bright

Lord take my hand in yours, come feel my pain
O Spirit wash me clean, make me whole again
Lord Jesus be the rock that guides me to
That perfect heart and mind I see in you
(Brenton Brown)

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.
We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.**

Amen

(Iona Worship)

O Lord, hear my prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer

When I call, answer me

O Lord, hear my prayer

O Lord, hear my prayer

Come and listen to me

(Taizé chant)

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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.**

**Circle us, Lord.
Keep protection near
And danger afar.
Circle us, Lord
Keep hope within.
Keep doubt without.
Circle us, Lord.
Keep light near
And darkness afar.
Circle us, Lord.
Keep peace within.
Keep evil out.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest"

Lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast"
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give"
"The living water, thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live"
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light"
"Look unto me, thy morn shall rise and all thy day be bright"
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun
And in that light of life I'll walk 'til travelling days are done

Go now from this service of worship
to the service of God's people near and far,
refreshed by the living water that Jesus offers to you.
Listen for the parched voices of the least of these;
search out the dry places and the arid souls,
and become for them a spring of living water.

And as you go,
may the blessings of the God of life,
the Christ of love,
and the Spirit of grace
be upon you this day and forevermore. Amen

(adapted from the Ecumenical Water Network's Seven Weeks for Water campaign for World Water Day)

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,

wherever He may send you.

May He guide you through the wilderness,

protect you through the storm.

May He bring you home rejoicing

at the wonders He has shown you.

May He bring you home rejoicing

once again into our doors.

Most of the liturgy this morning is taken from Celtic Daily Prayer

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