



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland
Sunday 26th April 2026**

Though the nations rage, kingdoms rise and fall

There is still one King reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is, the Ancient of Days

*None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days*

Though the dread of night overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone
O His love is sure, and He knows my name
For my God is, the Ancient of Days

Though I may not see what the future brings
I will watch and wait for the Saviour King
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days
(CityAlight)

Dear friends of Jesus Christ, in whom are you trusting?

Our help is in the name of the Lord who is making the heavens and the earth.

Grace, mercy and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen!

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd.

In his goodness he supplies our every need.

The Lord is our Shepherd, and he takes perfect care of us.

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd.

He leads us into safety and gives us strength for the journey.

The Lord is our Shepherd, who grants us rest and restores our souls.

Our Lord is the Good Shepherd.

He sought us out when we were lost, calling us by our names.

The Lord is our Shepherd, and he has carried us home. Amen.

(Literature & Liturgy.)

I serve a risen Saviour

He's in the world today
I know that He is living
Whatever men may say
I see His hand of mercy
I hear His voice of cheer
And just the time I need Him
He's always near

*He lives He lives
Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me
Along life's narrow way
He lives He lives
Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives
He lives within my heart*

In all the world around me
I see His loving care
And though my heart grows weary
I never will despair
I know that He is leading
Through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing
Will come at last

Rejoice rejoice O Christian
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs
To Jesus Christ the King
The Hope of all who seek Him
The Help of all who find
None other is so loving
So good and kind
(Alfred Henry Ackley)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles beginning at chapter 2 beginning at verse 42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Shout with joy to the Lord!
Worship the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing with joy!
Know that the Lord is God!

**He made us, and we are his.
We are his people,
the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him and bless his name.

**For the Lord is good.
His unfailing love continues forever,
and his faithfulness continues
to each generation.**

(Based on Psalm 100)

The King of love my Shepherd is

Whose goodness faileth never
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever
And He is mine forever

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth

*Never failing, ruler of my heart
Everlasting, lover of my soul
On the mountain high or in the valley low
The King of Love my Shepherd is
The King of Love my Shepherd is*

Lost and foolish off I strayed
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me
Thy rod and staff my comfort still
Thy cross before to guide me

Ooooooooooh, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never

Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise
Within Your house forever
Within Your house forever
(I Am They)

God in community, holy in one, you shepherd us and teach us to hear your voice. We pray with the words you have given us saying

**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.**

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

‘ Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’

Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them.

I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross

The emblem of suffering and shame
And I love that old cross where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain

*So I'll cherish the old rugged cross
'Til my trophies at last I lay down
I will cling to the old rugged cross
And exchange it some day for a crown*

Oh that old rugged cross, so despised by the world
Has a wondrous attraction for me
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above
To bear it to dark Calvary

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine
A wondrous beauty I see
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died
To pardon and sanctify me

To the old rugged cross, I will ever be true
Its shame and reproach gladly bear
Then He'll call me some day to my home far away
Where His glory forever I'll share
(George Bennard)

**Lord, we would follow you
wherever you might lead.
Lord, we would follow you.
Forgive us when we stumble
and when we stray.
Forgive us when, distracted
we lose our way.
Be the one to whom we turn,
whose hand we hold,
the Shepherd who leads us
safely to the fold.**

**Lord, we would follow you
wherever you might lead.
Lord, we would follow you.**
(John Birch)

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.

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)

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.

(Roddy Hamilton)

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord

Who abide in His shadow for life

Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings

Bear you on the breath of dawn

Make you shine like the sun

And hold you in the palm of His hand

The snare of the fowler will never capture you

And famine will bring you no fear

Under his wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield

You need not fear the terror of the night

Nor the arrow that flies by day

Though thousands fall around you, near you it shall not come

(Shane & Shane)

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