



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland
26th July 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)

Father God,
Your extravagant love has called us together.
Long before we even knew You,
You already knew us,
and had chosen us to be part of Your own family—
sisters and brothers with our Lord Jesus Christ Himself.
What amazing love You have shown toward us!

And so we come before You with praise and thanksgiving,
offering You the worship of our hearts and lives,
and opening ourselves to the prompting and leading of Your Holy Spirit.
Receive our worship—our praise and prayers and offerings—
through the intercession of Your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Lord.
May the time we spend here in Your presence
bring honour and glory to Your Name.
Amen. (based on Romans 8:26-34)

Morning has broken, like the first morning

Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dew fall, on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day

Morning has broken, like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the world
(Words:Eleanor Farjeon)

God, we praise You!
We remember the goodness and unfailing love
You have shown toward us, Your people.

Time after time, You have come to our rescue.
Your love has sustained us through good times and bad.
No matter what we faced —
whether accident, illness, disappointment or death —
You were there, encouraging, strengthening, and blessing.

Even when we turned our back on You,
You didn't abandon us,
You waited patiently for us to return,
ready to welcome us with open arms.

Because we have known Your love in the past,
we look to the days ahead without fear.
No matter how uncertain the future may seem,
we will continue to trust in Your unfailing love,
confident that You will guide us in the days ahead
as You have guided us in the past. Amen.
Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving
(based on Psalm 105)

God in community, holy in One, you speak to us in parables that we may catch a glimpse of your kingdom and your glory and so we pray the words 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.**

A reading from the gospel according to Matthew beginning at chapter 13 verse 31

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son

Give thanks to the Lord our God

Give thanks, he is the only one

Give thanks because He loves us, each and every one

And now, let the weak say, I am strong
Let the poor say, I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us

And now, raise your hands and worship Him
Open your hearts and let Him in
Our Lord has given everything for us, give thanks
(Henry Smith / additional:Nick Moore)

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and 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 into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there 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 life everlasting. Amen**

For the joys and for the sorrows, the best and worst of times

For this moment, for tomorrow, for all that lies behind
Fears that crowd around me, for the failure of my plans
For the dreams of all I hope to be, the truth of what I am

*For this I have Jesus, for this I have Jesus
For this I have Jesus, I have Jesus*

For the tears that flow in secret, in the broken times
For the moments of elation, or the troubled mind
For all the disappointments, or the sting of old regrets
All my prayers and longings that seem unanswered yet

For the weakness of my body, the burdens of each day
For the nights of doubt and worry, when sleep has fled away
Needing reassurance, and the will to start again
A steely eyed endurance, the strength to fight and win
(Graham Kendrick)

**We confess our sins to Almighty God.
Gracious God, you have done so much for us
And we so little in return.
You ask for humility,
And we are often a proud people.
You ask for willingness,
And we are often a stubborn people.
You ask for repentance ,
And we are often a deaf people.
You ask for service,
And we are often a busy people.
Gracious God, you want the best for us,
Teach us obedience,
Grant us forgiveness,
That we, like Mary,
Might be your willing servants. Amen.** (John Birch- faith and Worship)

Lord God,
your Son left the riches of heaven
and became poor for our sake:
when we prosper save us from pride,
when we are needy save us from despair,
that we may trust in you alone;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout the universe displayed

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!
(tune:Swedish Folk / words:Stuart Hine)

Benediction

Brothers and sisters,
Never doubt the love of God!
For long before you were aware of it,
God knew you.
He had already chosen you to be part of his family—
a child of God!
And having chosen you, he called you;
and having called you, he made you right with God;
and having made you right with God, he gave you his glory!
So do not doubt the love of God.
For if God is with us, we have nothing to fear.
(based on Romans 8:29-31)
(Christine Longhurst)

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)