



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

8th February 2026

Most of the liturgy this morning is taken from Celtic Daily Prayer ©2015 The Northumbria Community Trust. The Northumbria Community is a dispersed, international Christian community, originating from the Holy Island of Lindisfarne. The liturgy of Celtic Daily Prayer draws on the traditions of ancient Celtic Christianity, and aims to honour our rich heritage in the 'Northern Saints' such as Aidan and Cuthbert. The liturgy reflects the central themes of Celtic spirituality: an emphasis on God as Trinity; the beauty and holiness of the created order; the sacramental nature of our ordinary life and work; and the importance of silence and contemplation to our growth in the knowledge of God.

The day has come, my eyes have seen

Your salvation laid before me
Which you've prepared, for all to see
Your light, Your glory here to set us free

*Just as you promised, just like the prophets said
The hope of the world is here
Jesus, Jesus, the wait is done
Our King has come to us
Jesus, Jesus, we can now give our praise to him
The promised one has come, has come*

As we behold, this One foretold
We see the face of God before us
Let us wait no more, to bow and to adore
Our Lord, our God, our King for evermore

Hallelujah, Hallelujah
The promised one is here
Our saviour has now come

Jesus, Jesus, the wait is done
Our King has come to us
Jesus, Jesus, we can now give our praise to him
The promised one has come, has come
(Tommy Walker)

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)

Call to Worship

(based on Psalm 29)

In Christ alone my hope is found

He is my light, my strength, my song

This Cornerstone, this solid Ground

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm

What heights of love, what depths of peace

When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All

Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone! Who took on flesh

Fullness of God in helpless babe!

This gift of love and righteousness

Scorned by the ones he came to save

Till on that cross as Jesus died

The wrath of God was satisfied

For every sin on Him was laid

Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay

Light of the world by darkness slain

Then bursting forth in glorious Day

Up from the grave he rose again!

And as He stands in victory

Sin's curse has lost its grip on me

For I am His and He is mine

Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death

This is the power of Christ in me

From life's first cry to final breath

Jesus commands my destiny

No power of hell, no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand

Till He returns or calls me home

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

(Stuart Townend / Keith Getty)

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.

Psalm 136

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, •
for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the God of gods, •
for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

Who alone does great wonders, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

Who by wisdom made the heavens, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

Who laid out the earth upon the waters, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

Who made the great lights, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

The sun to rule the day, •
for his mercy endures for ever;

**The moon and the stars to govern the night, •
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**Who remembered us when we were in trouble, •
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**And delivered us from our enemies, •
for his mercy endures for ever;**

**Who gives food to all creatures, •
for his mercy endures for ever.**

**Give thanks to the God of heaven, •
for his mercy endures for ever.**

**A reading from the gospel according to Matthew beginning at chapter 6 verse 25
Matthew 6.25-end**

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?’

Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?

And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?

Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.’

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer

Greatest treasure of my longing soul
My God like You there is no other
True delight is found in You alone
Your grace a well too deep to fathom
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach
Your truth a fount of perfect wisdom
My highest good and my unending need

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Strong defender of my weary heart
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver
And my shield against his hateful darts
My song when enemies surround me
My hope when tides of sorrow rise
My joy when trials are abounding
Your faithfulness my refuge in the night

O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
Gracious Saviour of my ruined life
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders
In my place You suffered, bled and died
You rose, the grave and death are conquered
You broke my bonds of sin and shame
O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer
May all my days bring glory to Your Name
(Nathan Stiff)

Sermon

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)

Declaration of faith

To whom shall we go?

**You have the words of eternal life,
and we have believed and have come to know
that You are the Holy One of God.**

**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory.**

Prayers

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Our Father in Heaven how hallowed Your Name

Your Kingdom most surely will come
O Thy will be done, on Earth as in Heaven
Our daily bread taken, Amen
Forgive us our sins Lord as we forgive those
Who sin against us just the same
Let us not be tempted but keep us from evil
For the kingdom and the power and the glory are Yours
Now, forever, in Your Name, Amen
(Our Lord & Saviour)

**Christ, as a light
illumine and guide me.**

**Christ, as a shield
overshadow me.**

Christ under me;

Christ over me;

Christ beside me

on my left and my right.

This day be within and without me,

lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Be in the heart of each to whom I speak;

in the mouth of each who speaks unto me.

This day be within and without me,

lowly and meek, yet all-powerful.

Christ as a light;

Christ as a shield;

Christ beside me

on my left and my right.

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)

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.

+ 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.

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