



**St Edmund's Church Taverham**

**and St Peter's Church Ringland**

**8<sup>th</sup> 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.**

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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