



**St Edmund's Church Taverham
and St Peter's Church Ringland
11th October 2026**

The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want

In green pastures He makes me lie down
He restores my soul and leads me on
For His Name, for His great Name

*Surely goodness, surely mercy
Right beside me all my days
And I will dwell in Your house forever
And bless Your Holy Name*

You prepare a table right before me
In the presence of my enemies
Though the arrow flies and the terror of night
Is at my door, I'll trust you Lord

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
You are on my side (Shane & Shane)

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 106: 1-6, 19-23)

Let us praise God, whose goodness and steadfast love are everlasting.

With joy we praise God's wonderful deeds.

Happy are those who act justly and whose lives reflect God's righteousness at all times;

so look on us with favour, O God, for we rejoice in all your faithful dealings with those who have gone before us.

Like them, we have sinned; we fall far short of your goodness.

Like them, we forget you and replace you with idols of our own making.

Yet, as you heard Moses' prayer for his people and delivered them from certain death and destruction,

so you hear Jesus' prayers for us, and graciously grant us the gift of salvation.

Let us together praise God, whose goodness and steadfast love are everlasting.
(Moir Laidlaw)

A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians beginning at chapter 4 verse 1

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Lord, I come, I confess

Bowing here I find my rest
Without You I fall apart
You're the One that guides my heart

*Lord, I need You, oh, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defence, my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You*

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
Where You are, Lord, I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
When I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay (Matt Maher)

A reading from the gospel according to Matthew, chapter 22 verse 1

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet. But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main

streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.' For the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Nothing less than love has saved us, not our wisdom, art or skill

Christ, amidst our mess and madness, died and rose and, living still
Sends us, treasured, fed and cherished, empty hearts to find and fill

Nothing less than faith sustains us, living water, pilgrims' bread
Christ, the friend who never leaves us, walks the unknown path we tread
Sends us, brave or trembling, onward, to the work that lies ahead

Nothing less than justice calls us, not what we may stand to gain
Christ, beside the poor and voiceless, pleads for peace, denounces pain
Sends us out to make a difference, growing heaven's earthly reign

Nothing less than Holy Spirit, gives our mission energy
Christ, among the slow and fearful, breathes the truth that sets us free
Sends us out to bless, forgive and, be the change we long to see

Nothing less than all we are and, all we have and dream and do
You transform by grace, and make us holy, humble, hopeful, true
Threefold God of power and beauty start, with us, your world made new
(words:Elizabeth J Smith)

Lord, like a shepherd, You never stop searching for Your people, Your care for us anticipates our need. Before we recognised we needed Your grace, in love, Jesus gave His life for our forgiveness.

We confess that we need Your forgiveness, we confess our sins: You are the shepherd and we are Your flock, but we admit the times we have tried to take Your place and take control ourselves. We admit that we have not always trusted Your good news to be good for us. At times we have pleaded with You to care for us, but we have held back from caring for others and ignored the needs of others.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us in the name of Jesus. Loving shepherd, teach us by the Holy Spirit to follow You in the days and places of the weeks ahead. Through Jesus Christ we pray, **Amen.** (Rev Dan Carmichael)

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Take me to the water flowing deep and wide

Like a shepherd, lead me to the riverside
By the quiet waters, gladly I lay down
All the things that keep me from your holy ground

Jesus, in the darkness make the pathway clear
I will fear no evil, knowing you are near
On a rocky table in the wilderness
Set a feast before me, let my foes find rest

In the morning daylight, let your voice be heard
With your gentle whispers, I will heed your word
Through life's tribulations, you will be my guide
In your loving presence, safely I'll abide

Show me fields of mercy as I greet the dawn
To your house of blessing, I will follow soon
Guide my steps through dangers, your love not denied
'Til in endless glory, I shall dwell inside
(Daniel Charles Damon with additional by Nick Moore)

Prayers

God in Community, Holy in One, as you live in us, so we will live for others, even as we pray as taught by Jesus,

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.

Come, let us sing of a wonderful love, tender and true

Out of the heart of the Father above, streaming to me and to you
Wonderful love dwells in the heart of the Father above

Jesus the Saviour this gospel to tell, joyfully came
Came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell, sharing their sorrow and shame
Seeking the lost, saving, redeeming at measureless cost

Jesus is seeking the wanderers yet, why do they roam?
Love only waits to forgive and forget, home, weary wanderer, home!
Wonderful love dwells in the heart of the Father above

Come to my heart, O thou wonderful love, come and abide
Lifting my life till it rises above envy and falsehood and pride
Seeking to be lowly and humble, a learner of Thee (Robert Walmsley)

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)

Christ has no body now but yours

No hands, no feet on Earth but yours
Yours are the eyes with which he sees
Yours are the feet with which he walks
Yours are the hands with which He blesses all the world:
Yours are the hands (The Porter's Gate)

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