

Glynde Lutheran Church

a multi-cultural community of faith



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

OF AUSTRALIA



Church@Home

Sunday 19th March 2023

Lent 4, Year A

9am Traditional worship

HYMN: LHS 501 God Himself is Present

<https://youtu.be/ZmZ43Z2I6QA>

- 1 God himself is present;
let us now adore him
and with awe appear before him.
God is in his temple,
let us all keep silence,
worshipping with deepest reverence.
We will name
him alone
as our God and Saviour;
praise his name forever.**

- 2 God himself is present;
hear the music sounding,
see the hosts the throne surrounding.
'Holy, holy, holy',
hear the hymn ascending,
saints' and angels' voices blending.
Lord, come near
to us here,
hear the prayers and praises
that your church now raises.**

- 3 God, from heavenly glory,
visiting the lowly,
live with us and make us holy.
Like the holy angels
worshipping before you,
may we ceaselessly adore you.
As we live,
always give
hearts that want to please you
as we daily serve you.**

*Gott is gegenwärtig
Gerhard Tersteegen (1697-1769)
Tr composite*

**WELCOME
WE GREET ONE ANOTHER**

IN THE NAME

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ:

Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

He made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord.

Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.

**Almighty God, merciful Father,
I, a poor helpless sinner,
confess to you all my sins,
and repent of all the evil I have done.**

**I have deeply displeased you
and deserve your punishment
in time and in eternity.**

**But I am sorry for my sins,
and I ask you,
for the sake of the holy innocent sufferings and death
of your dear Son Jesus Christ,
to be gracious and merciful to me. Amen.**

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:

Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

I do.

Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

I do.

Christ gave to his church the authority to forgive the sins of those who repent and believe. Therefore, upon your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and on behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you.

Amen.

GLORY TO THE FATHER

Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forevermore. Amen

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace, among those with whom he is pleased.

**We praise you, we bless you,
we worship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you for your great glory,**

**O Lord God, heavenly king,
God, the Father almighty.**

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ,

**O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,**

you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.

**You are seated at the right hand of God the Father;
have mercy on us.**

For you alone are holy,

you alone are Lord,

you alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (all)

(Let us pray for faith in Jesus our Saviour. *[silence]*)

Loving Father,
when we were captive
in the darkness of sin and death,
your Son rescued us
and brought us back to you.
Teach us to trust in him
and to live as your people.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

BIBLE READINGS

FIRST READING

[1 Samuel 16:1-13](#)

SECOND READING

[Ephesians 5:8-14](#)

After the reading

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel is written in [Mark 1:14-20](#)

(after the reading)

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us* and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic† and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

HYMN: TiS 447 Lord, Your almighty Word

<https://youtu.be/0MD3yOyybGE>

**Lord, your almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard,
And took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light.**

**Saviour, who came to give
Those who in darkness live
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
Now to all humankind
Let there be light.**

**Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving holy dove,
Speed forth your flight;
Move on the waters' face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light.**

**Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
Boundless as ocean's tide
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth far and wide,
Let there be light.**

*Words: John Marriott 1780-1825
Music: Adapted from Felice Giardini 1716-96*

MESSAGE

Mark 1:14-20

“Reflections on following Jesus”

This morning we will be reflecting on what it means to follow Jesus. To help us do that, I will be unpacking a model that I have developed in teaching a *Christian Spirituality* Unit at ALC. This model depicts visually the various elements that make up Christian spirituality.

Spirituality **includes all five elements** of Identity; Connections (community); Beliefs; Practices; and Meaning. Furthermore, our spirituality needs to be seen as being **the sum (combination) of all these five elements**.

When it comes to following Jesus, **each** of these elements of our spirituality comes into play. In other words:

- **being a follower of Jesus** shapes our **identity** – for we are people who are loved by Jesus and saved by him. Through our faith in Jesus and in our baptism, we are God’s forgiven children and heirs of eternal life;
- **being a follower of Jesus** calls us into **community** where we live out our new identity in Christ in love and service of others – as the Body of Christ - in Jesus’ name and empowered by the Holy Spirit, to the glory of God the Father;
- **being a follower of Jesus** is an expression of our **belief** in Jesus as our saviour. This means trusting Jesus to save us and to lead us through life. This belief in Jesus determines our worldview and values. It lies at the heart of who we are and how we live our lives;
- **being a follower of Jesus** determines how we live and what we do (our **practices**). These practices are how we live out our faith and in doing so they also strengthen our faith and identity. Many of these are communal practices which assist us in loving and serving others;
- **being a follower of Jesus** results in our identity, connections, beliefs, and practices collectively (together) giving **meaning** and purpose to our life.

Finally, we should note that all five aspects of spirituality are **connected** to the others and are properly understood together. Furthermore, a healthy spirituality is when all these elements are **integrated** in your life.

Richard Haar

HYMN: LH 851 Amazing grace

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8H-iDuxBKA>

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toil, and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,
his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

*Words: John Newton
Music: Edwin Orthello Excell 1851-1921*

OFFERTORY SONG

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Call to prayer

Jesus is the light of the world. Let us pray that his light may shine in the church and in the world.

The regular response, OR:

Lord, in your mercy,
send out your light and your truth.

Suggested intercessions

- * for those who are blind and for all who work with them and provide them with tools to live their daily lives
- * for those whom our society rejects
- * for those who seek to see Christ in faith
- * for those blinded by doubt or despair
- * for those preparing for baptism or confirmation at Easter

Concluding prayer

We lift our eyes to you, O Lord. Restore us and the world in which we live through the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour,† and give you peace.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN: LH642 Praise God, from who all blessings flow

<https://youtu.be/V8TkUuKIh84>

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

Words: Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Music: 'Genevan Psalter' 1551