

Sunday 10.00 am Service (O2T1)
Commissioning of Staff & Volunteers
5 February 2023

Welcome

Call to Worship

Mysterious God, you reveal yourself in Jesus, your Beloved Son who gives us a glimpse of your glory and invites us to share in the unity of all that is Holy:

the holiness that is You, your creation, your people, united in the Spirit that breaks through all boundaries of fear and injustice.

Meet us here today and teach us to be one:

One in love for each other.

One in understanding with all who find in Jesus the Way to You.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus,

whose fervent prayer was ever: "May they all be one." **Amen.**

Song: Shout to The Lord

My Jesus my Saviour

Lord there is none like You

All of my days I want to praise

The wonders of Your mighty love

My comfort my shelter

Tower of refuge and strength

Let every breath all that I am

Never cease to worship You

Shout to the Lord

All the earth let us sing

Power and majesty

Praise to the King

Mountains bow down

And the seas will roar

At the sound of Your name
I sing for joy
At the work of Your hands
Forever I'll love You
Forever I'll stand
Nothing compares to the promise
I have in You

CCLI Song # 1406918 Darlene Zschech
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Song: Amazing Grace (My Chains)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I'm 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

**My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace**

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine

But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151 Chris Tomlin/John Newton | Louie Giglio © 2006 sixsteps Music (Admin. by

Multi-age Talk (Bec)

Commissioning of Staff and Volunteers

God said through Paul:

It was Christ who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4.11-13

Prayer

Almighty God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your church is called into a royal priesthood, hear our prayer for our staff team, Bec Featonby, our assistant minister, Ron Peterson & Chris Rosen, our associate ministers and Jaqueline Hendrey, our administrator, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly serve you, devoutly love you, and faithfully follow Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commissioning of Volunteers

Prayer

Almighty God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your church is called into a royal priesthood, hear our prayer for all involved in ministry in the Longbeach Church and the local community that in their vocation and ministry they may truly serve you, devoutly love you, and faithfully follow Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Staff and volunteers, if you agree with the promises I will be asking, then please respond to the following questions.

Have you turned to Christ in repentance and faith, receiving forgiveness and new life through his death and resurrection?

I have turned to Christ.

Will you draw near to God and hold onto the hope you have in Christ?

I will with God's help.

Will you commit to faithfully use the gifts God has given you to build his people and glorify his name?

We will, with God's help.

Will you urge each other to live out your faith in Christ in your everyday lives, standing firm in Christ as we wait for his return?

We will, with God's help.

To the Congregation:

Will you support each other by encouraging one another, praying with faith that we will do all that the Lord requires, and support each other with love, fellowship, practical help and finance?

We will

And will you all protect the unity of this church and support its testimony?

We will

Will you undertake your tasks wholeheartedly, faithfully, and with the joy that Christian service brings?

I will, with God's help, and the prayerful support of others.

Heavenly Father, please help me, with others at the Longbeach Church to proclaim and live the gospel of Jesus Christ, so that others might believe, belong, grow and serve.

Please help the Longbeach Church to be a united, loving and outward looking church. Strengthen our commitment to prayer, community, outreach, discipleship and world mission.

By your Spirit grow us in maturity so that we can bear fruit for you. Give us all the gifts needed to build your church. For your glory and in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

To the congregation:

People of Longbeach, you have heard our brothers and sisters commit themselves to these ministries. Will you pray for them, support, encourage and work with them, so that Christ's church in this place may be built up in love?

We will, with God's help

Let us pray.

Living God, you have called us to be the Body of Christ. May our church be a sign of hope in this area. May all we do bring praise to your name and draw others to your salvation. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, who came to serve and bring us fullness of life. Amen.

May God bless you and make you fruitful in all that you undertake. Amen.

Bible Reading: Luke 1.46-56 (Merylin W)

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favour on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;

⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”
⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and then
returned to her home.

Message

Offering Song: Jesus, God's Righteousness Revealed

Jesus, God's righteousness revealed,
The Son of Man, the Son of God,
His kingdom comes.
Jesus, redemption's sacrifice,
Now glorified, now justified,
His kingdom comes.

**And His kingdom will have no end,
And His glory shall know no bounds,
For the majesty and power
Of this kingdom's King has come,
And this kingdom's reign, and this kingdom's rule,
And this kingdom's power and authority,
Jesus, God's righteousness revealed.**

Jesus, the expression of God's love,
The grace of God, the word of God,
Revealed to us.
Jesus, God's holiness displayed,

Now glorified, Now justified,
His kingdom comes.

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Thanks for the Offering

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us.
In the upside-down world of the gospel,
we measure our wealth not by what we have,
but what we can give away.
Let us give away generously, in this offering,
To bless your church, your people, your creation.

Prayer of Confession

In penitence and faith let us confess our sins to Almighty God
**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
And in what we have failed to do:
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
We repent and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness
of life; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Declaration of forgiveness

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him
in faith, pardon us and set us free from all our sins, strengthen us to
do his will, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers for the Church and our World (Jaqueline)

Lord's Prayer

**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.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
Are yours now and forever. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God. We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,

He offered the one true sacrifice for sin

And obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore, with angels and archangels,

And with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation,

This bread and wine and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me”. After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying, “Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded:

proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
His mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
His one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer

Gracious God, we thank you that in this sacrament
you assure us of your goodness and love.

Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
and help us to grow in love and obedience
that we may serve you in the world
and finally be brought to that table
where all your saints feast with you for ever.

Father,
**we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Notices

Song: Go Forth

We are His children, the fruit of his suffering
Saved and redeemed by his blood
Called to be holy, a light to the nations
Clothed with his power, filled with his love

**Go forth in his name, proclaiming "Jesus reigns!"
Now is the time for the church to arise
And proclaim him "Jesus, Saviour, Redeemer and Lord" (repeat)**

Countless the souls that are stumbling in darkness
Why do we sleep in the light?
Jesus commands us to go make disciples
This is our cause, This is the fight

Listen the wind of the Spirit is blowing
The end of the age is so near
Pow'rs in the earth and the heavens are shaking
Jesus our Lord, soon shall appear!

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord

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Blessing