

Sunday 10.00 am Service (O2T1)
Commissioning of Staff & Volunteers
4 February 2024

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: Blessed Be Your Name

Blessed be Your name

In the land that is plentiful

Where Your streams of abundance flow

Blessed be Your name

Blessed be Your name

When I'm found in the desert place

Though I walk through the wilderness

Blessed be Your name

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll

Turn back to praise

When the darkness closes in Lord

Still I will say

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name**

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be Your name

CCLI Song # 3798438 Beth Redman | Matt Redman
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Song: Waymaker

You are here moving in our midst
I worship You I worship You
You are here working in this place
I worship You I worship You

**(You are) Way Maker,
Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper
Light in the darkness
My God that is who You are**

You are here touching ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You
You are here healing ev'ry heart
I worship You I worship You

You are here turning lives around
I worship You I worship You
You are here mending ev'ry heart
I worship You yeah I worship You Lord

That is who You are (4x)

Even when I don't see it
You're working
Even when I don't feel it
You're working
You never stop
You never stop working
You never stop
You never stop working

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God with us (Sue)

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, 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: Mark 1.16-20, 29-34 (Merylin W)

¹⁶ As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. ¹⁷ And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." ¹⁸ And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰ Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

²⁹ As soon as they^[a] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

Message

Offering Song: I have a Maker

I have a Maker
He formed my heart
Before even time began
My life was in His hand

**He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And hears me when I call**

I have a Father
He calls me His own
He'll never leave me
No matter where I go

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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 (Colin L)

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: Millenium Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy name
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
On earth as in heav'n

Give us today our daily bread
And forgive our sins
As we forgive each one
Of those who sins against us
And lead us not to the time of trial
But deliver us from evil
For Thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory

Let all the people say amen
In every tribe and tongue
Let every heart's desire
Be joined to see the kingdom come
Let every hope and every dream
Be born in love again
Let all the world sing
With one voice
Let the people say amen

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Blessing