10am Sunday Service – Celebrate Messiah (O3 with some Lenten prayers) 4 April 2025

Welcome (Sue lead, Julia music)

Call to Worship

We gather today, not as slaves, but as free people, children of God, redeemed by His grace.

We remember the blood on the doorposts, the angel of death passing over our homes.

We remember the exodus, the journey to freedom, the promise of a new life. We sing of freedom, of liberation, of the Lord's mighty hand that sets us free. Let us praise Him, for He is the God of freedom, the God of deliverance!

Song: Lord I come to You (ABCBB)

Lord I come to you,
Let my heart be changed, renewed
Flowing from the grace that I found in you
And, Lord I've come to know
The weaknesses I see in me
Will be stripped away by the power of your love

Hold me close, let your love surround me, Bring me near, draw me to your side And as I wait, I'll rise up like an eagle And I will soar with you, Your Spirit leads me on In the power of your love

Lord unveil my eyes
Let me see you face to face
The knowledge of your love, as you live in me
Lord renew my mind
as your will unfolds in my life
In living every day in the power of your love

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Bible Reading: Exodus 12.3, 5-11 (Jacky R)

³Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn with fire. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand, and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the Passover of the LORD.

Bible Reading: Mark 14.22-25 (Jacky R)

²² While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the^[a] covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Message (Celebrate Messiah)

Offering Song: Yet Not I (song is sung as written below)

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

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Offering Prayer

Lord, you are the bread of heaven, giving life to the world.
You fill our emptiness with your goodness.
You come to our weakness with your strength.
Take and use these gifts to bring in a rich harvest of your heavenly food and life-giving refreshment.

The Confession
Heavenly Father,
You have loved us with an everlasting love,
But we have broken your holy laws
And have left undone what we ought to have done.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,

Forgive us, cleanse us and change us. By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

God is slow to anger and full of compassion, Forgiving all who humbly repent And trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord God therefore forgives us in Christ Jesus, In whom there is no condemnation. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Sue with Christine and Karin)

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.

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power for you created all things, making us in your own image. We praise you for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by his death on the cross and rising to new life offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. Therefore, we lift our voices to praise you, saying, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

And now, gracious God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and wine, and pray that we who receive them, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, according to our Saviour's word, in remembrance of his suffering and death, may share his body and blood.

On the night before he died,

Jesus took bread, and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat. This is my body which is 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 which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

We eat this bread and drink this cup to proclaim the death of the Lord. We do this until he returns. Come, Lord Jesus!

Father, as we recall his saving death and glorious resurrection, may we who share these gifts be renewed by your Holy Spirit and united in the body of your Son. Bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom, there to feast at your table and join in your eternal praise:

Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive praise and honour and glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ. We who are many are one body.

For we all share in the one bread

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Come let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ in remembrance that he died for us, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

The Sending out of God's People

God of Mercy, may we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world.

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. Amen

Notices

Song: King of Kings (song is sung as written below)

In the darkness we were waiting without hope, without light 'Til from Heaven You came running there was mercy in Your eyes To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the word From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son, praise the Spirit, three in one God of glory, Majesty, praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost To redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross For even in your suffering You saw to the other side Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake you died

Chorus

And the morning that You rose all of Heaven held its breath 'Til that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored

And the church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint By His blood and in His name in His freedom I am free For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me

Chorus

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Blessing

Christ our Saviour draw you to himself, that you may find in him crucified a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sin forgiven. **Amen.**