

We Gather to Worship God

Call to Worship

Minister: We gather here, where God would teach us

All: so we may be taught how to be more loving.

Minister: We gather here, where Jesus would teach us

All: the language of hope so we may speak to all.

Minister: We gather here, where the Spirit imparts wisdom,

All: so we might know how to share grace.

Hymn: 147 (v1-3) All creatures of our God and King *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

- 1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia !
Bright brother sun with golden beam,
clear sister moon with softer gleam :
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia !*
- 2 Swift rushing wind, so wild and strong,
high clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia !
New-breaking dawn, in praise rejoice,
and lights of evening, find a voice :
- 3 Cool flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for your Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia !
Fire, with your flames so fierce and bright,
giving to all both warmth and light :

Responsive Prayer

Minister: The dark night is gone forever.

All: the new day blooms all around us.

Minister: Sing to our God a new song,

All: let the assembly of believers sing praises.

Minister: Throw away all that belongs to darkness,

All: clothe yourself with garments of light.

Minister: Rejoice in the Creator who shaped you,

All: celebrate the King whose realm is light and love.

Minister: Wrap yourselves in the mind of Christ,

All: for his love fulfils the law of God.

Minister: The Lord enjoys the fellowship of his people,

All: and beautifies the meek with salvation.

Silence
God speaks to us today

Reading: **Mark 4: 2-18**

Offering

Prayer

Hymn: 251 I, the Lord of sea and sky

Here I Am Lord

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them ?
Whom shall I send ?
Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord ?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord,
if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them.
Whom shall I send ?

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send ?

Brother of the poor, talker with birds

*" Lord, make us servants of your peace:
where there is hate, may we sow love;
where there is hurt, may we forgive;
where there is strife, may we make one."*

~ James Quinn

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Question for reflection

People used to say that St Francis was a bit like Christ. Does that mean that we can say that Christ was a little bit like St Francis?

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Intimations

We bring to God our Prayers and the Lord's Prayer

**All: Our Father,
Which art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth
as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, forever.
Amen**

Hymn: 645 I'm not ashamed to own my Lord

Jackson (Byzantium)

- 1 I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,
or to defend his cause,
maintain the glory of his cross,
and honour all his laws.
- 2 Jesus, my Lord! I know his name,
his name is all my boast;
he will not put my soul to shame,
nor let my hope be lost.
- 3 I know that safe with him remains,
protected by his power,
what I've committed to his trust,
till the decisive hour.
- 4 Then will he own his servant's name
before his Father's face,
and in the new Jerusalem
appoint my soul a place.

Closing Responses

Minister: May you who are **strong** go out into the world
with gentleness,

All: and you who are **weak** go on your way with new
strength.

Minister: May you who are **confident** by nature walk now with
humility,

All: and you who are **anxious** step out with more certainty.

Benediction