



10am Experience and Explore

Welcome

Grace and peace to you from God.

May he fill you with truth and joy.

Please stand to sing hymn 276 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Please sit

As we enter prayer now, we pause to be still; to breathe slowly, to re-centre our scattered senses upon the presence of God.

Prayer of Approach

As we draw near to You Lord, would you draw near to us?

O Lord, may we approach you with an eager quietness that is willing to listen; in your presence may our longings, passions, wounds and wonderings be pressed into a more holy shape.

Amen.

Let us join with the ancient praise of all God's people in the words of Psalm 27. This psalm reminds us of what our focus should be. King David lived an active and complicated life, carrying many duties and responsibilities. Amid it all, there was one thing which he prioritised beyond everything else...

Triumphant Song of Confidence. Of David.

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;

**though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.**

⁴One thing I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:

**to live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in his temple.**

(Ps. 27: 1, 3, 4)

Words of Penitence and Forgiveness

We take a moment of silence to reflect on the past week, the things we have done or not done, and the ways in which we have offended God and hurt those around us...

Jesus said, *'Before you offer your gift, go and be reconciled.'* As brothers and sisters in God's family, we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

(Matthew 5:24)

In your mercy,

Bring new life where we are worn and tired

Bring new love where we are hard hearted

Bring forgiveness where we have wounded and we feel hurt

Bring the joy and freedom of your Spirit where we are the prisoners of ourselves.

To all and to each where regret is real, God pronounces pardon and grants us the opportunity to begin again.

The LORD God forgive you,
restore the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in you a willing spirit.
In the name of Christ, who died for us. **Amen.**

Collect

Bible Reading

Hymn **494** **I, the Lord of sea and sky**

Exploration of the theme: Hearts of Flesh (Ezekiel 36: 24-28)

Talk – from the lectern, please stay seated

North Chapel - Refreshments

Reflect in the Chancel - a space to think and reflect on what it means to have a heart of 'flesh'.

South Chapel – Choose a stone on which to paint a heart and make a soft heart on a biscuit. What did the prophet Ezekiel mean when he spoke of a heart of flesh? What does it mean to be soft or hard hearted?

After about 20 minutes we come back together to share what we have learned and made.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you
And also with you.

We offer one another a sign of peace and afterwards sing **845**,
The peace of the earth be with you

Prayer for ourselves and others, during which we will sing
263:

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
break me, melt me, mould me, fill me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

(Daniel Iverson 1890-1977)

concluding with **The 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,
and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for
ever.
Amen**

Affirmation of faith
We stand and say together:

**We believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist.**

We believe and trust in God the Son who took our human nature, died for us and rose again.

We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world.

**We believe in one God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Birthdays! If you have recently had a birthday, let us know so that we can celebrate together.

**Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday to you,
God bless you and keep you,
another year through.**

May the light of Christ shine out in your life, wherever you may be, all through the coming year. Amen

Hymn 227 Crown him with many crowns

The Blessing
From where we are to where you need us
Jesus, lead on

From the security of what we know to the adventure of what you will reveal
Jesus, lead on

Because good things have been prepared for those who love God
Jesus, lead on

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.