

Entrance Hymn

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light:

(Refrain)

3. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
pleasures pure and undefiled: *(Refrain)*

4. For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely giv'n,
graces human and divine,
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n: *(Refrain)*

5. For thy Church which evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
off'ring up on ev'ry shore
her pure sacrifice of love: *(Refrain)*

Collect

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

New Testament Reading: Colossians 3.12–17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Responsorial psalm: Psalm 34: 11-20

O taste and see that the Lord is gracious. O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.

Come, my children, and listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Who is there who delights in life and longs for days to enjoy good things? Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words. Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. **O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to root out the remembrance of them from the earth. The righteous cry and the Lord hears them and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the broken-hearted and will save those who are crushed in spirit. **O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

Many are the troubles of the righteous; from them all will the Lord deliver them. He keeps all their bones, so that not one of them is broken. **O taste and see that the Lord is gracious.**

Gospel: Luke 2:33–35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

The Offertory Hymn

1 Baptised in water,
sealed by the Spirit
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;
heirs of salvation,
trusting his promise -

faithfully now God's praise we sing.

2 Baptised in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our king;



**one with his rising,
freed and forgiven
thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

3 Baptised in water,

**sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our king;
born of one Father,
we are his children -
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Sending Hymn

- 1. He's got the whole world in his hand. (x4)**
- 2. He's got you and me, brother**
- 3. He's got you and me, sister**

- 4. He's got the little tiny baby**
- 5. He's got ev'rybody here**

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