

# A Service of the Word 2 (SW2)

*The rubrics for this service are self-explanatory and guide the leader through the liturgy. Options are available for MP or EP and Prayers of the People.*

## The Gathering of the Community

*All stand.*

*Officiant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* Let us pray.  
We thank you, O God, that you have again brought  
us together to praise you for your goodness and to  
ask your blessing. Give us grace to see your hand  
in the week that is past, and your purpose in the  
week to come; through Christ our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

*The officiant or other appointed person gives notice of matters affecting the life and work of the congregation, either now or at the conclusion of the service.*

*Officiant* Dear friends in Christ,  
as we turn our hearts and minds  
to worship almighty God,  
let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
firmly resolved to keep God's commandments  
and to live in love and peace with our neighbour.

*People* **Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us,  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Officiant* Merciful God,  
grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,  
that we may be cleansed from all our sins  
and serve you with a quiet mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*A hymn of praise may be sung.*

*Officiant* The Lord is our light and our life.  
*People* **O come, let us worship.**

*Venite or Jubilate (BAS p. 49) is sung or said. "Christ our Passover" (p. 50) may be used from Easter to Pentecost. In the evening, "O Gracious Light" is sung or said. Metrical versions such as "All people that on earth do dwell," and "O gladsome Light," may be used.*

## **Venite**

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God \*  
and a great king above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his for he made it, \*  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the  
sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

### **O Gracious Light** *tune: Tallis' Canon*

O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ,  
in you the Father's glory shone.  
Immortal, holy, blest is he,  
and blest are you, his holy Son.

Now sunset comes, but light shines forth,  
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.  
Praise Father, Son, and Spirit: God  
who dwells in the eternal light.

Worthy are you of endless praise,  
O Son of God, Life-giving Lord;  
wherefore you are through all the earth  
and in the highest heaven adored.

### **The Proclamation of the Word**

*The psalm or psalms appointed are said or sung, concluding with*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now and will be forever. Amen.

*The first appointed reading is read, the reader first saying*

A reading from...

*After the reading the reader shall say either*

The word of the Lord.  
(or Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.)  
*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

*The canticle "You Are God" or, in the evening, "The Song of Mary" may be said or sung. Metrical versions of these canticles may be used (BAS pp. 86–87; cf. Service music of Common Praise).*

## **You Are God**

You are God: we praise you;  
you are the Lord: we acclaim you;  
you are the eternal Father:  
all creation worships you.

To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

The glorious company of the apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of the prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.

Throughout the world the holy Church acclaim you:  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all worship,  
and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of Glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you became man to set us free  
you did not shun the Virgin's womb.

You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come, and be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.

## **Song of Mary**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; \*  
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

*The second appointed reading is read, the reader first saying*

A reading from...

*After the reading the reader shall say either*

The word of the Lord.  
(Or Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.)  
People **Thanks be to God.**

*The Song of Zechariah or, in the evening, The Song of Simeon may be said or sung. Metrical versions of these canticles may be used (BAS p. 89; cf. Service music of Common Praise).*

## **The Song of Zechariah**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
to give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.



I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*There is considerable freedom to  
develop prayers of the people using  
models for the BAS Eucharist*

## Intercessions and Thanksgivings

*The officiant or another member of the community leads the prayers,  
using the following form or the following model.*

Let us join in prayer with God's faithful people throughout the  
world, saying "God of Love: hear our prayer."

We pray for the unity of your church, that our life may reflect the  
love you have shown us.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We ask your grace for *N* our bishop, [*N* our priest,] and for all who  
minister in word and in action, that we may bear faithful witness  
to your good news.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We seek your peace and justice in our world, our country, and our  
community, that the needy may never be forgotten.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**



We ask your blessing on our homes, our friends and family, and on those who live alone, that we may know your presence ever near us.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We name before you all whom you have given us to pray for [especially....], knowing that you are doing for them better things than we can ask or imagine.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to you all who have died [especially....], that our trust in you may deepen as you keep them safe in your care.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We offer our thanks and praise for all you have done for us, rejoicing in the knowledge that you are with us always.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

We look for your purposes to be accomplished, and ask you to fill us with the strength and vision to further your reign.

God of love: **Hear our prayer.**

*Or, intercession or thanksgiving may be offered for*

*the Church  
the Queen and all in authority  
the world  
the local community  
those in need  
the departed.*

*The officiant greets the people using these or similar words.*

We are the body of Christ; in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of Christ.*

*A hymn may be sung, during which the offerings of the people are collected and presented. When the offering is placed on the altar or other suitable place, all say*

**Yours, Lord, is the greatness,  
the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.  
All things come from you, and of your own do we give you.**

*All say one of the General Thanksgiving prayers.*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
to us and all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
that with truly thankful hearts  
we may show forth your praise,  
not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up ourselves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honour and glory throughout all ages. **Amen.**

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise  
for all you have done for us.  
We thank you for the splendour of the whole creation,  
for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life,  
and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends,  
and for the loving care  
which surrounds us on every side.  
We thank you for setting us tasks  
which demand our best efforts,  
and for leading us to accomplishments  
which satisfy and delight us.  
We thank you also for those disappointments and failures  
that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.  
Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;  
for the truth of his word and the example of his life;  
for his steadfast obedience,  
by which he overcame temptation;  
for his dying, through which he overcame death;  
for his rising to life again,  
in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.  
Grant us the gift of your Spirit,  
that we may know Christ and make him known;  
and through him, at all times and in all places,  
may give thanks to you in all things. **Amen.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

<i>Officiant</i>	Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,
<i>All</i>	<b>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. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.</b>

**Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Or*

*Officiant* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,  
we are bold to say,

*All* **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord (Alleluia).  
*People* **Thanks be to God (Alleluia).**

*A concluding hymn may be sung.*

*Officiant* May the God of hope  
fill us with all joy and peace in believing through  
the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**