



**SUNDAY 5th DECEMBER
OPEN DOOR SERVICE
WITH THE BAPTISM OF MURRAY HENDERSON**

WELCOME

In my head, in my heart and all around me
Jesus is here.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Loving God, we have come to worship you.
**Help us to pray to you in faith,
to sing your praise with gratitude,
and to listen to your word with eagerness;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

SONG - Come now is the time to worship

Chorus Come now is the time to worship
 Come now is the time to give your heart
 Come just as you are to worship
 Come just as you are before your God
 Come

- 1 One day every tongue
Will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose You now
- 2 Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our heart soul mind and strength
We gladly choose You now

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SONG - Water you turned into wine

- 1 Water You turned into wine
Opened the eyes of the blind
There's no one like You
None like You
- 2 Into the darkness You shine
Out of the ashes we rise
There's no one like You
None like You
- Chorus Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God our God
- Bridge And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against
(Then) what could stand against

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WE SAY SORRY

We are often slow to follow the example of Christ.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We often fail to be known as Christ's disciples.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We often fail to walk the way of the cross.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

WE ARE FORGIVEN

WE LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE

Jesus said, 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets: I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.'
Amen. Come soon, Lord Jesus!

The second candle is lit and this response is used

Jesus is the light of the world.
A light no darkness can ever put out.

We sing: Advent candles tell their story
as we watch and pray,
longing for the Day of Glory,
'Come, Lord, soon,' we say.
Pain and sorrow, tears and sadness
changed for gladness
on that Day.

Prophet voices loudly crying,
making pathways clear;
glimpsing glory, self-denying,
calling all to hear.
Through their message - challenged, shaken –
hearts awaken:
God is near!

READING *Luke 3: 1-6*

3 In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

‘The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

TALK

THE BAPTISM

THE PRESENTATION

The president addresses the congregation.

We thank God for Murray
who has come to be baptized today.

Christ loves him and welcomes him into his Church.
So I ask you all:

Will you support Murray as he begins his journey of faith?
We will.

Will you help him to live and grow within God's family?
We will.

The president then addresses the parents and godparents

God knows each of us by name and we are his.
Parents and godparents, you speak for Murray today.
Will you pray for him,
and help him to follow Christ?
We will.

THE DECISION

We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.
Therefore I ask:

Do you turn away from sin?
I do.

Do you reject evil?
I do.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?
I do.

Do you trust in him as Lord?
I do.

The president makes the sign of the cross on the candidate's forehead,

Do not be ashamed of Christ.
You are his for ever.

**Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you
from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
On him you poured your Spirit
at his baptism in the River Jordan.
He sent his followers to baptise all who turn to him.
And so, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptised in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
filled with your Spirit
and know themselves loved as your children,
safe in Christ forever. **Amen.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Let us affirm, together with Murray's parents and Godparents, our
common faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again
I believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who
gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

THE BAPTISM

The president pours water on the candidates, saying

I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory. **Amen.**

THE WELCOME

As fellow children of God we welcome Murray as brothers and sisters.

Welcome, welcome, welcome,
welcome to the household of God where
we will read with you, sing with you, pray with you,
break bread with you,
and walk beside you in your travels.
May you know Christ's hand in your hand
and keeping of the Spirit until your seeking is over
and God comes to find you. Amen.

SONG - Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest friend
But wholly trust in Jesus name

*Christ alone
Cornerstone
Weak made strong
In the Saviour's love
Through the storm
He is Lord
Lord of all*

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone...

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found (Oh, yeah)
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone...

Songwriters: Edward Mote, Reuben Timothy Morgan, Jonas Carl Gustaf Myrin, Eric Liljero
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PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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.**

**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.**

NOTICES

SONG – Longing for Light

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light!...

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light!...

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Christ, be our light!...

Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Christ, be our light!...

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THE BLESSING

GIVING OF A LIGHTED CANDLE

The president gives to the baptised a lighted candle lit from the Paschal (Easter) candle.

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

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