**A service of the word**

**Preparation**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. *All*   **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made. *All*   **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

***Hymn –*** *When I Survey*

We have come together in the name of Christ to offer our praise and thanksgiving, to hear and receive God’s holy word, to pray for the needs of the world, and to seek the forgiveness of our sins, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may give ourselves to the service of God.

**Confession**

Jesus says, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.’ So let us turn away from our sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*All*   **Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;**

**we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore us to the joy of your salvation;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse *you* from *your* sins, and restore *you* in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All*   **Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,

*All*   **for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

*All*   **and in our song will we praise our God.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator and redeemer of all; to you be glory and praise for ever. From the waters of chaos you drew forth the world and in your great love fashioned us in your image. Now, through the deep waters of death, you have brought your people to new birth by raising your Son to life in triumph.

May Christ your light ever dawn in our hearts as we offer you our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

*All*   **Blessed be God for ever.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

*All*   **Amen.**

**The Word of God**

**First Reading** – Acts 2:42-47

**Hymn** – Psalm 23

**2nd Reading** – John 10:1-10

**The Sermon**

*We say the creed together*

*All*   **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.**

**Intercessions**

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

*All*   **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.**

**Hymn – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

**The Blessing**

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life.

*All*   **Amen.**

[Let us bless the Lord.

*All*   **Thanks be to God.**]