

**Caversham Park Morning Service  
Sunday, 14 September 2025**

**Lighting the Peace Candle**

**Call to Worship – Psalm 51. 1-10 – Responsorial**

1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

**2 Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.**

3 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

**4 Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.**

5 Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

**6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.**

7 Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**8 Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.**

9 Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

**10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

**Hymn 1      The King of love my Shepherd is MP 649**

**Introduction – Give out stones. We are thinking of our sins and God's forgiveness**

**Lighting the Candles**

In lighting these candles we ask you to remember the situations we bring to you.

**Prayer of Approach** Let us pray:

God, you seek us.

We gather here seeking you.

We gather here to encounter you in your glory,  
offer you our gratitude, and lift up our praise.

We do not like to admit that we need to be found.

We want to proclaim our self-sufficiency.

Yet you know where we are better than we know ourselves.

You know the parts of us that we fear are unacceptable to you.

You know the things we have done that we fear ever sharing.

You know when our ego gets the best of us.

You know the anxieties that cause us to hide,  
and the fear of the world that imprisons us.

You tell us, again and again, that you will not let these things keep you from us.

You invite us to turn again to you, to thrill when we encounter beauty  
and to rejoice in the selfless humility of love.

You seek us, and when you find us, you embrace us.

Thanks be to God!

For your steadfast love, we praise you!

For your unwillingness to abandon us, we lift up our alleluias!. Amen

**Hymn 2      I was once in darkness x2 – (on guitar)**

**Invitation to Confession**

We admit here in this place that we have done things we wish we had not done,  
said things we wish we had not said, and thought things we wish we had not thought.

The words of Scripture call to us:

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins..

**All** God of mercy,  
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.  
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done,  
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.  
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past,  
and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins,  
Grant us time for amendment of our lives, and the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit.

**All** Amen

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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

**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

**1st Reading - 1 Timothy 1. 12-17**

**Hymn 3** Immortal Invisible MP 327

**2nd Reading - Luke 15. 1-10**

#### **Talk**

**Hymn 4** How deep the Father's love for us MP 988

**Prayer** Let us pray:

You are with us, O God, to knit us together in mutual love and caring.  
You pour out abundant gifts that enrich our existence and challenge us to give our best.  
Let the words of our mouths proclaim the dawn of redemption that Christ inaugurates.  
Let the actions that arise from our hearts and minds spread abroad the good news of his reconciling love.  
Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of Him who is the Saviour of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ;  
and with that love burning, make this world of ours a world of Hope and Promise - for all peoples, and for all times.  
All these things we ask and pray to you about in the name of Christ Jesus - who gives to us the light we need to walk into each day as your holy and beloved people. Amen

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God:

**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.

**Prayers of Intercession – then congregation bring forward their stone**

**Hymn 5** O Lord your tenderness x3 MP 511

**Praying over the Collection (music played as the collection brought forward)**

Receive these our gifts of money; talents and time in response to the life you give to us through the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May we not withhold anything that brings hope to others  
and may we share all we have to the benefit of all. **Amen**

**Notices**

**Dismissal – The Blessing**

Let us bless each other by saying the Grace to each other, and also to those people who are not physically here with us, but are sharing in our worship.

**All     The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
          and the love of God,  
          and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
          be with us all, ever more.     Amen**

**Hymn 6        Amazing Grace MP 31**