

**Welcome to  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Morley**

**4th** Sunday after Lent  
Liturgy in Song

*May you feel God's presence and  
be blessed as you worship with us  
today.*

*We are called to worship*

Opening Sentences:

*Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead,*

**and Christ will shine on you.** (*Eph*  
*5:14 NRSV*)



*In the name of the Father, Son and  
Holy Spirit.*

**Amen**



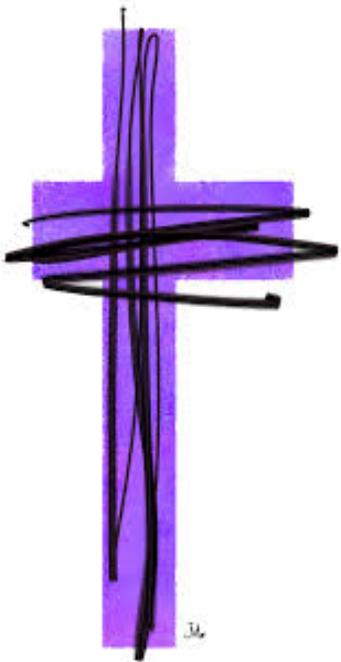
I. When morning gilds the skies  
My heart awaking cries,  
May Jesus Christ be praised.  
When evening shadows fall,  
Thus rings my curfew call,  
May Jesus Christ be praised.



2. When mirth for music longs,  
This is my song of songs,  
May Jesus Christ be praised.  
God's holy house of prayer  
Hath none that can compare  
With: Jesus Christ be praised.



3. No lovelier antiphon  
In all high heaven is known  
Than: Jesus Christ be praised.  
There to the eternal Word  
The eternal psalm is heard:  
May Jesus Christ be praised.



4. You nations of mankind,  
In this your concord find,  
May Jesus Christ be praised.  
Let all the earth around  
Ring joyous with the sound,  
May Jesus Christ be praised.



5. Sing, suns and stars of space,  
Sing ye that see His face,  
Sing: Jesus Christ be praised.  
God's whole creation o'er,  
For aye and evermore,  
Shall Jesus Christ be praised.



Beim fruhen Morgenlicht

19th century  
Tr. Robert Bridges, 1899

## Confession And Absolution

*Dear friends in Christ, Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of the our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.*



A time of quiet reflection as you confess  
the sins that trouble you most.



*Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

**He made heaven and earth.**

*I said I will confess my sins to the  
Lord.*

**Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.**



*Leader:*

*Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess to you by nature we are sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against you by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy and plead for your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.*



Most merciful God, you have given your only son to die for us; Have mercy on us, and for his sake grant us forgiveness of sins. By your Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of you and your will, and make us obedient to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## Christ forgives

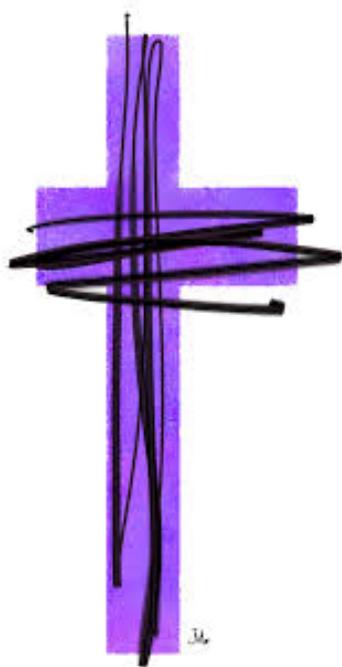
*Almighty God our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given us his only son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in the power of his name he has given the right to become the children of God, and has given them His holy spirit. Whomever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this Lord to us all.*

*Peace be with you*

**Amen**



*Let us pray that through Jesus we share in God's nature.*



Make us who trust in Jesus  
to be more and more like him.  
For he lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen.



*We hear God speaking to us through his Word*

## **1 Samuel 16:1-13**

*Samuel anoints David as king of Israel*

## **Ephesians 5:8-14**

*Live as children of the light*

## **John 9:1-41**

*Jesus opens the eyes of a man born blind*



The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”



But Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me."  
The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate."





Samuel did what the LORD said.  
When he arrived at Bethlehem, the  
elders of the town trembled when  
they met him. They asked, “Do you  
come in peace?” Samuel replied,  
“Yes, in peace; I have come to  
sacrifice to the LORD.  
Consecrate yourselves and come to  
the sacrifice with me.”

Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD."

But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him.



The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”



Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.”



Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.



Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.



*This is the word of the Lord*  
**Thanks be to God**



For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.



It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”



*This is the word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God**



*John 9: 1-41 (NIV)*

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him.



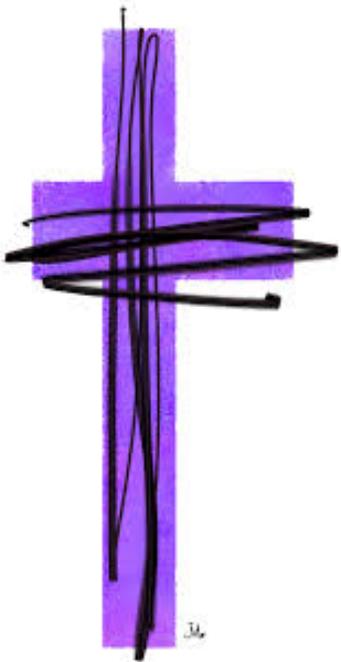
As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”



After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes.

“Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” Some claimed that he was.

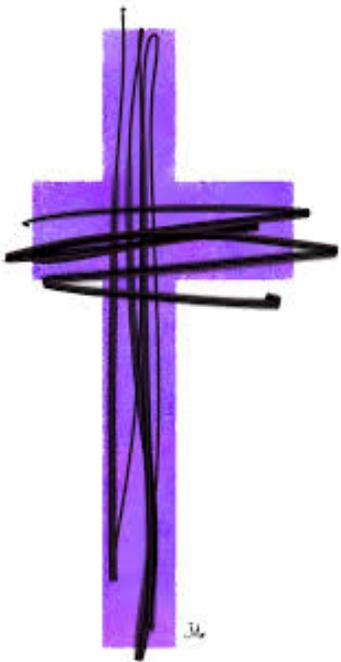


Others said, “No, he only looks like him.”

But he himself insisted, “I am the man.”

“How then were your eyes opened?” they asked.

He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes.



He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

“Where is this man?” they asked him.

“I don’t know,” he said.



They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."



Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.”

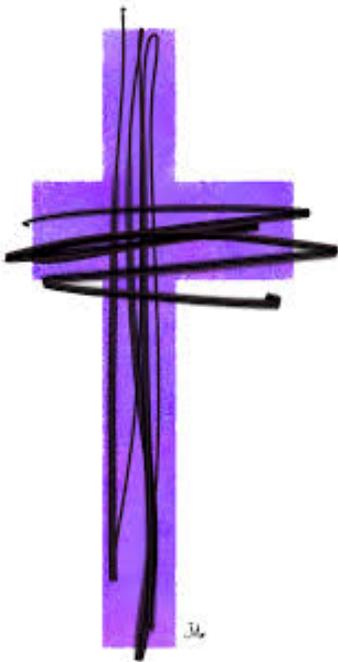
But others asked, “How can a sinner perform such signs?” So they were divided.

Then they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.”

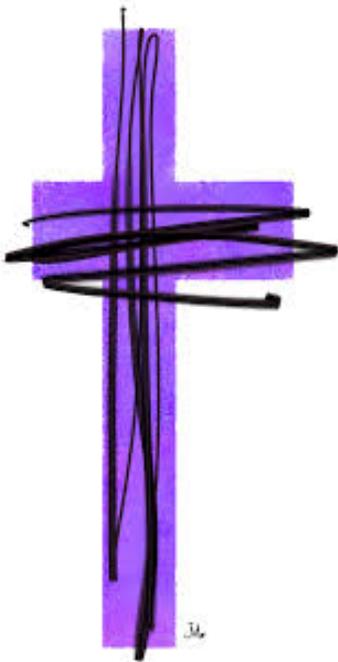


The man replied, "He is a prophet."

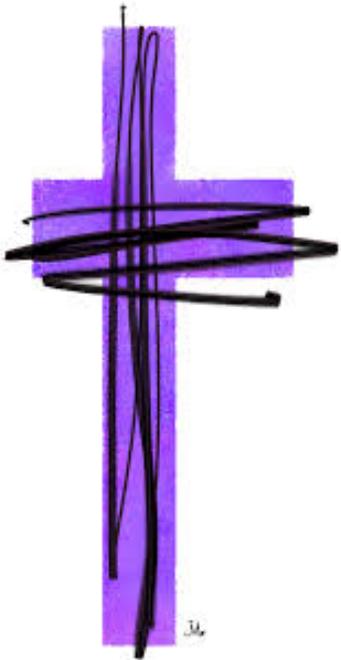
They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?"



“We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.”



His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."



A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. “Give glory to God by telling the truth,” they said. “We know this man is a sinner.”



He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!”

Then they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”

He answered, “I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?”



Then they hurled insults at him and said, “You are this fellow’s disciple! We are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don’t even know where he comes from.”



The man answered, “Now that is remarkable! You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly person who does his will.



Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”



To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out.

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

“Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”



Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,”  
and he worshiped him.

Jesus said,<sup>[a]</sup> “For judgment I have  
come into this world, so that the  
blind will see and those who see  
will become blind.”

Some Pharisees who were with  
him heard him say this and asked,  
“What? Are we blind too?”



Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.



*This is the Gospel of our Lord*

**Praise be to you, O Christ**

## *Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.



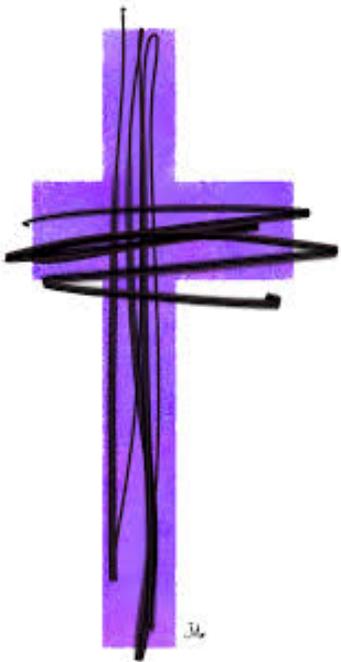
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord, who was conceived by  
the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin  
Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and  
buried.



He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence 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.

catholic means universal\*



*Psalm 23 – Stuart Townend version*

*(feel free to search online for various performances of this song)*



The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not  
want;  
He makes me lie in pastures green.  
He leads me by the still, still  
waters,  
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*



He guides my ways in righteousness,  
And He anoints my head with oil,  
And my cup, it overflows with joy,  
I feast on His pure delights.



*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead me home.*



And though I walk the darkest path,  
I will not fear the evil one,  
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff  
Are the comfort I need to know.



*And I will trust in You alone,  
And I will trust in You alone,  
For Your endless mercy follows me,  
Your goodness will lead*

CCLI Song # 1585970

Stuart Townend

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*me home.*



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

Amen.



## Address

‘The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me...’

Psalm 23:1,4a NIV



Offering Song: Cornerstone (next slide)

*'The earth is the Lord's, and  
everything in it,  
The world and all who live in it'*

Psalm 24:1, NIV



Some of you might be wondering how you can make your offering to the Lord when we are not meeting publicly. Our Treasurer Mr Keith Kowald recommends that in the first instance you consider Regular Electronic Giving (REG) where you have not already. Contact Keith on [keithkowald@bigpond.com](mailto:keithkowald@bigpond.com) or 0407 885 372 to hear about [REG or other options.](#)

Song: Cornerstone

*(feel free to search online for various performances of this song)*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
But holly trust is Jesus' name



x2

Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior'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

My anchor holds within the veil



Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's  
love

Through the storm

He is Lord

Lord of all

He is Lord

Lord of all, Christ alone



Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's  
love

Through the storm

He is Lord

Lord of all



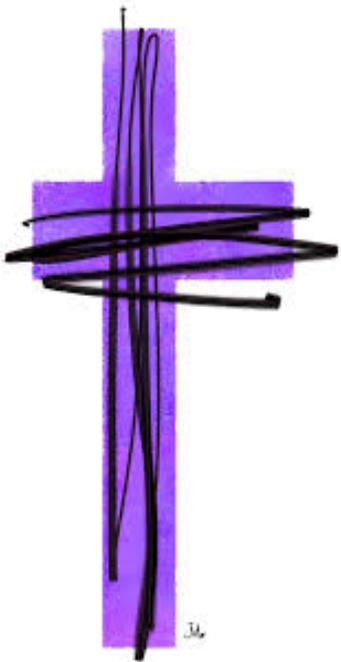
x2

When he shall come with trumpet  
sound

Oh, may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless, stand before the throne



Cornerstone  
in the Savior's love  
He is Lord  
Lord of all



Christ alone, Cornerstone  
Weak made strong in the Savior's  
love  
Through the storm  
He is Lord  
Lord of all



CCLI Song # 6158927

Edward Mote | Eric Liljero | Jonas Myrin | Reuben Morgan | William Batchelder Bradbury

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## *Offering Prayer*

Thank you, loving heavenly Father,  
for sending your Son to live among  
us.

Teach us to trust in him,  
to forget about ourselves,  
and to follow his example of  
humility and service,  
doing everything in his name.  
Amen.



## *Special prayer regarding Coronavirus*

*Heavenly Father, bring healing and comfort for people around the world suffering from Coronavirus COVID-19. Speed their recovery and slow the spread of the virus. We thank you for the efforts of all those involved in treating, testing and caring for patients, and ask your protection over them as they go about their work.*





*Give wisdom to governments around the world as they manage this outbreak. We ask for your peace when we are tempted to panic or become anxious about this disease. Help us to place our trust in you, knowing that our life is safely hidden in you and that you are the Lord of all creation. Enable us to show your love to others, sharing the hope we have in you, praying and caring for the sick and needy as best we can in the name of Christ. Amen.*

## General prayer

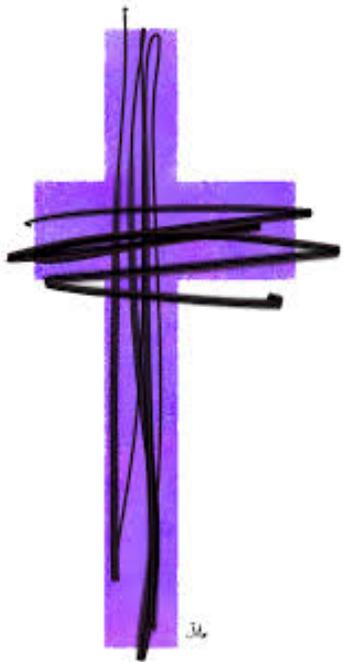
*Jesus is the light of the world. Let us pray that his light may shine into the darkness of our world today.*



Heavenly Father: thank you that Jesus brings sight to the blindness of human hearts and minds, and that when he illuminates our sin he also shines on us with his righteousness.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Lord, teach us to pray, and direct us each day to Jesus and the prayers he prays for us. Instruct us as we pray the psalms of holy history.



*Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

We pray for people who are blinded to Christ because of ignorance or because of sin and shame. And we pray for those black spots we have kept shut to his truth and grace. Father, bring the light of the gospel to these people and places.



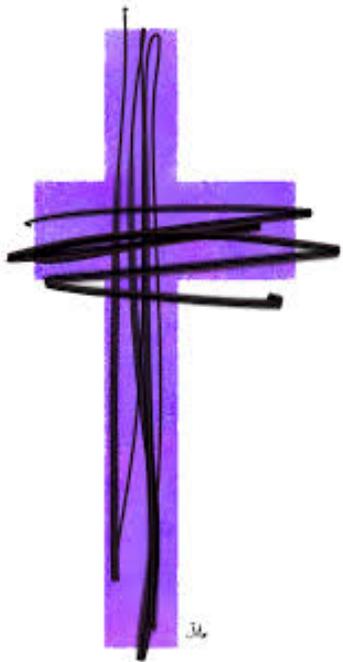
*Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

Where people are in despair for whatever reason we ask Lord that you would bring peace. Relieve the pressure on those who suffer for your name.



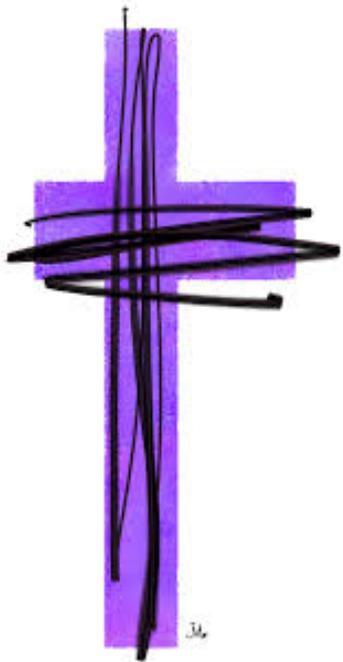
*Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

Bless the church and all its work.  
Watch over Bethlehem Community  
Care and WA Lutheran Homes  
Foundation and their services.



*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Uphold marriage as you instructed it, and give all Christian parents the determination and ability to bring up their children in the faith.



*Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**

Give courage to those who are physically blind and support those who help them.

Give faith and strength to the sick and those who care for them.

Provide for all in need, including those known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

*Lord, in your mercy:* **hear our prayer.**



*(other petitions may be inserted here)*

We lift our eyes to you, O Lord.  
Restore us and the world in which  
we live through the death and  
resurrection of your Son, Jesus  
Christ, in whose name we pray.  
**Amen.**



*We pray together the prayer of our Lord*

**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  
forever.

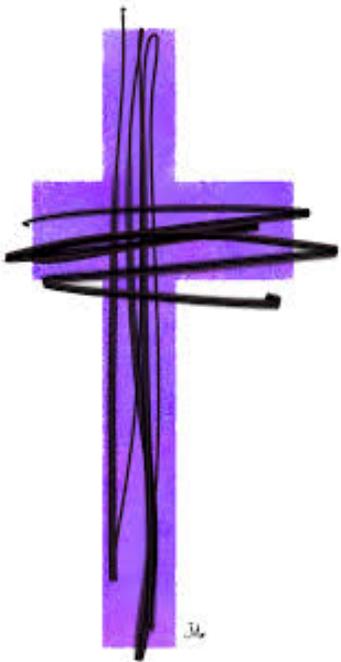
Amen.



# The Blessing

*M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, † and give you peace.*

**C: Amen.**



I. And can it be that I should gain  
An interest in the Savior's blood  
Died He for me who caused His  
pain  
For me who Him to death  
pursued



Amazing love how can it be  
That Thou my God should die  
for me

Amazing love how can it be  
That Thou my God should die  
for me



3. He left His Father's throne above  
So free so infinite His grace  
Emptied Himself of all but love  
And bled for Adam's helpless race  
'Tis mercy all immense and free  
For O my God it found out me  
'Tis mercy all immense and free  
For O my God it found out me



4. Long my imprisoned spirit lay  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray  
I woke the dungeon flamed with light  
My chains fell off my heart was free  
I rose went forth and followed Thee  
My chains fell off my heart was free  
I rose went forth and followed Thee



5. No condemnation now I dread  
Jesus and all in Him is mine  
Alive in Him my living Head  
And clothed in righteousness divine  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne  
And claim the crown through Christ my o  
Bold I approach th'eternal throne  
And claim the crown through Christ my o



## *Announcements:*

Please read pastor and chairman's joint letter on the temporary suspension of public worship at Bethlehem at least until and including Sunday 5 April.



This is at our website if you have not received it by email.

## *ATN 5 It's your birthday*

It's your birthday, it's your birthday,  
so have a happy day.

You're getting older, getting wiser,  
you're wiser every day!

Jesus loves you, Jesus loves you,  
and that is why I say:

Have a happy birthday, and God bless you!

