

**Song** (Upbeat only): 'Graves into gardens'

**Welcome and Notices**

**Song:** 'Come down, O love divine' (HON90)

**Opening Prayer**

Be with us, Spirit of God;  
**nothing can separate us from your love.**  
Breathe on us, breath of God;  
**fill us with your saving power.**  
Speak to us, wisdom of God;  
**bring strength, healing and peace.**

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

**Introduction**

**Prayer of the Day**

Threefold God,  
relationship in unity,  
love given and received  
through all the ages long:  
give us that unity  
which is not enclosed  
but alive and accepting  
with the open heart of love;  
through Jesus Christ, the glory of God.  
**Amen.**

**Reading** Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to the disciples, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. 49And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

**Song:** 'Wait on the Lord'

**Talk**

**All-age activity: call to action**

**What we believe**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

**Song:** 'Spirit of the living God' (HON454)

**Prayers**

**Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

What God has prepared for those who love him,  
he has revealed to us through the Spirit;  
for the Spirit searches everything.

Therefore, let us in penitence open our hearts to the Lord,  
who has prepared good things for those who love him.

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in heart.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and divided.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

**Song:** 'Wait on the Lord'

## **Blessing**

May the boldness of the Spirit transform you,  
may the gentleness of the Spirit lead you,  
may the gifts of the Spirit equip you  
to serve and worship God;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **The Peace**

God has made us one in Christ.

He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come,  
has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

