



Procession SONG Confirmee's, Mentors & Pastors

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love,
What depths of peace
When fears are stilled
When strivings cease!
My comforter, My All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone! – who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied-
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny

...

No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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WELCOME & NOTICES

OPENING SENTENCES

You have turned to God from idols,
to serve a living and true God,
**and to wait for his Son from heaven,
whom he raised from the dead. (1 Thess 1:9,10)**

THE INVOCATION

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

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

The Apostle Paul says to us today: 'You have turned to God from idols,
to serve a living and true God.'

Yet we confess before God that we naturally seek to serve ourselves.
We come before God, seeking his forgiveness, for the sake of his Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Lord God, our heavenly Father,
I confess that I have not modelled Jesus, the suffering Servant, in all
my thoughts, words and deeds.
For the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
have mercy on me,
Forgive me my sins, and graciously help me in my weakness. Amen.**

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

THE ABSOLUTION

The good news of the victory of Jesus over sin,
death and the devil has come to us not simply with words but also with
power,
with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction.
So, upon your confession, and on behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by
his command,
I forgive the sins of all of you who repent and believe,
in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. We
have been set free!
Peace be with you. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

2 Faith Statements

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:
Lord, keep your family faithful to you.
Protect us from all evil,
so that we may serve you
by doing good,
to the glory of your name.
We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing for St Paul's Kids

May God go with you, fill your hearts with joy, and help you grow in His love today. Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 45:1-7 The Lord appoints King Cyrus of Persia to do his will

“This is what the Lord says to his anointed,

to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of
to subdue nations before him

and to strip kings of their armor,
to open doors before him

so that gates will not be shut:

² I will go before you
and will level the mountains^[a];

I will break down gates of bronze
and cut through bars of iron.

³ I will give you hidden treasures,
riches stored in secret places,
so that you may know that I am the Lord,
the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

⁴ For the sake of Jacob my servant,
of Israel my chosen,
I summon you by name
and bestow on you a title of honor,
though you do not acknowledge me.

⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other;
apart from me there is no God.
I will strengthen you,
though you have not acknowledged me,

⁶ so that from the rising of the sun
to the place of its setting
people may know there is none besides me.

I am the Lord, and there is no other.

...

⁷ I form the light and create darkness,
I bring prosperity and create disaster;
I, the Lord, do all these things.

Psalm 96:1-9 READING RESPONSIVELY

- ¹ Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
- ² Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.
- ³ Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous deeds among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- ⁵ For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
- ⁶ Splendour and majesty are before him;
strength and glory are in his sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, all you families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.
- ⁹ Worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Serving God in faith, hope, and love

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you.

² We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³ We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

THE ADDRESS

OFFERING SONG 10,000 reasons

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before O my soul,

I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me

Let me be singing when the evening comes

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before O my soul,

I'll worship Your holy name

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger

Your name is great, and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before O my soul,

I'll worship Your holy name

And on that day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul

Worship His holy name

Sing like never before, O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name
I'll worship Your holy name

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OFFERING PRAYER

**Our loving God,
we thank you for your good gifts for us
and especially for the gift of you Holy Spirit who
calls us to faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus.
Give us hearts to serve you in faith
with all that we have
all that you make us to be.
Amen.**

2 Faith Statements - Tessa and Evie

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Stand in front of the altar with mentors

PRESENTATION

After a period of instruction in the Christian faith, I present Lucy Coveney, Evie Gardiner, Tessa Hosking and Jaden Mishael for the rite of confirmation.

WORD OF GOD

Friends in Christ,

Our Lord said: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and *teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.*”

These young people have all been baptised and then taught the Christian faith by their families, their godparents, this congregation, and many others in their lives. They have now completed a period of instruction in the basic teachings of the faith according to the Small Catechism of the Lutheran Church.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Lucy, Evie, Tessa and Jaden,
do you this day, in the presence of God and this congregation,
acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your baptism, and make
confession of your faith for yourself?

Yes, I do

Do you reject the devil and everything he does, so that you will not be
led by him?

Yes, I do

Turn and face the congregation

Do you believe in the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Yes!

**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 there 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.**

The confirmands are now going to make vows in response to the grace that God has poured out into their hearts and lives through the Holy Spirit. In these vows, they are making a personal commitment to follow Jesus, their Saviour.

God made a promise in your baptism to receive you into His family, to forgive your sins, and remain with you always.
Do you intend to continue as God's child all your life, to live according to His will, to give praise and glory to God through your words and actions, and stay close to God's family in the church?

Yes I do, by the grace of God and with His help.

You have worshipped, listened to, loved and learned of Jesus Christ in your homes, in small groups, and in this holy place. You have regularly heard God's words of forgiveness, and at this table, you have feasted on Christ's body and blood through the Lord's Supper.

Do you intend to continue hearing God's Word and to receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

Yes I do, by the grace of God and with His help.

You have come to understand more of God's love and His plan to set the world free from sin, death and bondage to the dark powers of evil.

Do you intend to carry the light of Christ and show God's love to the world? Do you intend to follow Jesus and work for peace and justice in your home, your school, and your community for as long as you live?

Yes I do, by the grace of God and with His help.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

We celebrate with thankful hearts that you've been baptised, and have received God's teaching. You have freely confessed your faith, and have been forgiven all your sins for the sake of Jesus. As you continue to hear God's Word and receive the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit will continue to strengthen your faith.

Kneel now and receive the personal blessing of God for the journey.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank You for making Jesus known to all of us through Your Word. Today we especially thank You for these young people, and for the faith which has been planted in their hearts. Continue to grow their faith, so that they continue as Your disciples throughout their lives, and be a source of blessing to many people. Give them courage to fight evil, to resist temptation, and keep the faith until they reach their heavenly home, where in Your mercy, You will welcome them to life eternal. **Amen**

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

COMMISSION

Children of the Heavenly Father, may the Holy Spirit fill your lives with His presence.

Go now, follow Jesus your Saviour and serve God faithfully, as He calls you to work for Him.

RECEPTION

Members of St Paul's, you have heard these young people confess their faith.

Remember them in your prayers, encourage them in their journey of faith, and set them a good example, so they may always live as God's children.

BLESSING OF MENTORS

These special people were chosen by each young person to walk with them through their period of confirmation instruction, and continue their commitment to them in the next few years as their mentor and model of faith in their continuing Christian journey.

Dear mentors,

We offer you these words of encouragement from the book of Hebrews chapter 10: *"Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good. Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer."*

On behalf of St Paul's, you have helped shape the faith of these young people by standing with them through their period of instruction, and we thank you for your support and involvement in their lives. May God bless and encourage you as you continue this journey together. Pray for them, find joy in each other's company, and grow in faith together.

Do you intend to do so?

Yes, by the grace of God and with His help.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

(COMMUNION LITURGY)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

It is indeed right and good,

Lord God, holy Father,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks to you,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

He overcame death by his resurrection

and opened up for us

the way to eternal life with you.

And so, with angels and archangels,

and with all the company of heaven,

we adore and praise your glorious name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord!

God the Lord of heavenly hosts!

With your glory you now fill

Heav'n and earth to dwell with us.

Holy! Holy Lord.

**Blessed, blessed is the King
who comes in your name to bless us here.
Sing Hosanna! Sing on high;
He has won the victory!
Sing Hosanna to our King!**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed,
took bread, and when he had given thanks,
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said:
Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, after the supper,
and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

THE 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 forever.
Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

**Christ the Lamb, the Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy upon us. Have mercy on us. (Repeat)**

**Christ the Lamb, the Lamb of God
you take away the sin of the world,
Grant us your peace now. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

He will hold me fast

1. When I fear my faith will fail
Christ will hold me fast
When the tempter would prevail
He will hold me fast
I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path
For my love is often cold
He must hold me fast

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

2. Those He saves are His delight
Christ will hold me fast
Precious in His holy sight
He will hold me fast
He'll not let my soul be lost
His promises shall last
Bought by Him at such a cost
He will hold me fast

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast

3. For my life He bled and died
Christ will hold me fast
Justice has been satisfied
He will hold me fast
Raised with Him to endless life
He will hold me fast
Till our faith is turned to sight
When he comes at last"

He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
He will hold me fast
For my Savior loves me so
He will hold me fast.

Authors: Ada Ruth Habershon & Matthew Merker
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What a beautiful name

1. You were the Word at the beginning
One With God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

2. You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful Name it is
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You,
the veil tore before You
You silenced the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, God You reign
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, God You reign
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
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Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus

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THE DISMISSAL

The body of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you
in body and soul to life eternal.
Go in peace †. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION SONG

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go
in peace, according to your word
for I have seen how you have sent
your Son to save the world from sin.**

**Now your salvation is revealed:
a light that shines in this dark world;
a light of grace for all the earth;
a light that glorifies your saints.**

**All glory to the Father, Son
and Holy Spirit, one true God;
the God who was, the God who is,
and will be ever more. Amen.**

**Now, Lord you let your servant go
in peace, according to your word
for I have seen how you have sent
your Son to save the world from sin.**

THE THANKSGIVING PRAYER

**Almighty and merciful God,
through his body and blood
your Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your presence.
Give us pure hearts and a sure faith
to draw near to you as our Father,
and to ask you for whatever we need.**

**We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

YEAR 12 BLESSING

Year 12s have been working and studying hard for the VCE exams that they will be starting soon.

God's Word says: The way to become wise is to honour the Lord; he gives sound judgment to all who obey his commands. He is to be praised forever. *Psalm 111:10 (Good News)*

So, let us pray that the God of wisdom and understanding will be with you.

Eternal God, your wisdom is beyond what we can possibly understand, but You chose to reveal it to us through the life and love of Your Son, Jesus. Bless Cate who belongs to you, who wants to grow in her faith and knowledge of you, and also in her understanding of the wonderful world and the people you have made.

As Cate faces her final exams this year, give her peace and confidence so that she can do her best. Make her honest and insightful, and able to give a true reflection of what she has learned this year. We pray that her mind is rested, her body energized and her spirits refreshed. Grant this through Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen

Blessing -

May God teach you His ways, and lead you to the joys of His kingdom, here on earth and then forever in heaven. Amen.

THE BLESSING

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

Amen.

THE COMMISSION

Go from this place with the confidence
that you are God's beloved children.

We go, to labour in love with all we meet.

Go out into the world with steadfast hope
and joyous trust.

**We go, remembering our faithful God
who goes before us.**

In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

We Rejoice in the grace of God

1. He has clothed us with his righteousness,
Covered us with his great love.
He has showered us with mercy,
And we delight to know
the glorious favour,
wondrous favour of God

We rejoice in the grace of God Poured upon our lives,
Loving kindness has come to us
Because of Jesus Christ.
We rejoice in the grace of God,
Our hearts overflow.
What a joy to know —
the grace of God.

2. He's brought us into his family,
Made us heirs with his own Son.
All good things he freely gives us
And we cannot conceive what God's preparing,
God's preparing for us.

We rejoice in the grace of God
Poured upon our lives,
Loving kindness has come to us
Because of Jesus Christ.
We rejoice in the grace of God,
Our hearts overflow.
What a joy to know —
the grace of God. (Repeat)

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