

## SUNDAY MORNING – THE GIFT OF A WORLD

(\* Indicates optional change of reader.

**Bold text to be read by all)**

We meet in the name of Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit  
within this precious time and place.  
We meet as would a family,  
bound as one together  
in love, within this sacred space.

God of peace and unity  
**be in our arriving and departing.**  
\*God of love and family  
**be in our meeting and welcoming.**  
\*God of truth and mercy  
**be in our reading and understanding.**  
\*God of hope and prophesy  
**be in our hearing and following.**

Psalms 145 (vs. 1-7)  
*(As you read and listen, use the pauses  
to let the words speak to your hearts)*

I will exalt you, my God the King;  
**I will praise your name for ever and ever.**

\*Every day I will praise you  
and extol your name forever and ever.  
Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;  
his greatness no one can fathom.  
One generation commends your works to another;  
they tell of your mighty acts.  
(PAUSE)

\*They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty –  
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

They tell of the power of your awesome works –  
and I will proclaim your great deeds.  
They celebrate your abundant goodness  
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

I will exalt you, my God the King;  
**I will praise your name for ever and ever.**

**Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
Three in One. Amen**

In the light of God's glory our hearts lie exposed,  
revealing the sin within.

**For that which we ought to have done,  
to bring a blessing  
or word in due season,  
forgive us, gracious Lord.  
For that which we have already done,  
which has caused a wound  
or moved someone to anger,  
forgive us, gracious Lord.  
May these be lives that are devoted  
to serving you, and all  
whom you would lead us to.**

If we, in humility, will confess our sins  
in the quietness of our hearts or in the company of the faithful,  
God's love and mercy bring forgiveness.

Let us share the peace of Christ Jesus with those around us.  
'Peace I leave with you,' said Jesus. 'My peace I give you.'  
'Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you!"'

*(Pause while the peace is shared)*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**His love endures forever**

*Genesis 1:27-30*

So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” (PAUSE)

Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

For the wonder of Creation,  
which is such a precious gift

**We will sing your praise**

For the image of the divine  
imprinted in our hearts

**We will sing your praise**

For the joy of community  
and the blessing that it gives

**We will sing your praise**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,**

**on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts,**

**as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from the evil one. Amen**

May this be a day of hope,  
of expectation,  
relishing each moment  
as a gift from you.

May this be a day of freedom,  
of breaking free,  
loosening the chains that  
still surround us.

May this be a day of peace,  
of wholeness,

knowing that our lives  
are in your hands.

May this be a day of joy,  
of blessing,

living in your kingdom  
as a child of God. **Amen**

Now the majesty of God  
bring our hearts to rejoicing,  
the Spirit's breath

fill our souls to overflowing,  
and the grace of God

lead our hands to serving,  
this day and all days. Amen.