Hymn 514: Thou, whose almighty word

- Thou, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight; hear us, we humbly pray, and, where the gospel-day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!
- 2. Thou, who didst come to bring on thy redeeming wing, healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, O now to all mankind let there be light!
- 3. Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy Dove, speed forth thy flight; move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.
- Holy and blessèd Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might; boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride, through the world far and wide let there be light.

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We gather to worship God

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Lord, direct our thoughts, teach us to pray, lift up our hearts to worship you in Spirit and in truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen

Hymn 212: Holy, holy, holy

- Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2. Holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

- 3. Holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.
- 4. Holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Confession and Absolution

The prophet Isaiah had a vision of God in heaven, glorious and exalted, with all the seraphs crying out in praise: 'Holy holy holy is the Lord Almighty'. His glory shows our sinfulness, and we long for the fire of God's cleansing to touch our unclean lips, for our iniquity to be removed and our sins wiped out.

So, we meet Father, Son and Holy Spirit with confession on our lips.

We keep silence to recall our need for God's forgiveness.

O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory:
Holy is your name,
Lord God almighty.
In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away, and to cleanse our lips to speak your word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

- Jesus, we love You, we worship and adore You, Glorify your name in all the earth. Glorify your name, glorify your name, Glorify your name in all the earth.
- Spirit, we love You, we worship and adore You, Glorify your name in all the earth. Glorify your name, glorify your name, Glorify your name in all the earth.

St Paul wrote to the Romans: 'May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.' (Romans 15: 6)

God of glory, you nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life: fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us the light of your glory may shine in all the world.

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Blessing

God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing ...

Prayers for others and ourselves

Prayers of Intercession are followed by the Lord's Prayer:

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 for ever. Amen.

Hymn 126: Father, we love you

Father, we love You,
 we worship and adore You,
 Glorify your name in all the earth.
 Glorify your name, glorify your name,
 Glorify your name in all the earth.

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Listening to God's Word

Psalm 31 1-5

- 1 In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me.
- 3 Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.
- 4 Free me from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.

5 Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O Lord, the God of truth.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.

The Readings:

Acts 7:54 – 8:1 John 16:25-33

After the readings we use these words:
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon – Chris Scruby

Hymn 120: Father, hear the prayer we offer

- Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease that prayer shall be, but for strength that we may ever live our lives courageously.
- Not for ever in green pastures do we ask our way to be; but the steep and rugged pathway may we tread rejoicingly.
- Not for ever by still waters would we idly rest and stay; but would smite the living fountains from the rocks along our way.
- 4. Be our strength in hours of weakness, in our wanderings be our guide; through endeavour, failure, danger, Father, be thou at our side.

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

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.