

GROWING IN GRACE

Grace

Luke 2:41 – 52

14th February 2021



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CALL TO WORSHIP

`I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD” (Psalm 122:1).

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



THERE'S A TIME



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OPENING PRAYER AND CONFESSION



Gracious Lord, humble Saviour, we come with praise on our lips and love in our hearts. You are holy and just, faithful and true. Glory to your holy name.



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We confess that we have not lived according to your holy ways of justice and love. We confess our own sins and the sins of our nation.



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**Have mercy on us, O God, in
your constant love; in the fullness
of your mercy blot out our
offences. Wash away all our guilt,
and cleanse us from our sin.
Forgive our nation for turning its
back on you and your ways.**



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If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore to all who truly repent this is his gracious word: 'Your sins are forgiven.'

Amen. Thanks be to God.

GOD OF GRACE, AMAZING WONDER



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READING LUKE 2: 41 -52

41 Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. 42 When Jesus was twelve years old, they went to the festival as usual. 43 When the festival was over, they started back home, but the boy Jesus stayed in Jerusalem.



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His parents did not know this; 44 they thought that he was with the group, so they travelled a whole day and then started looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 They did not find him, so they went back to Jerusalem looking for him. 46 On the third day they found him in the Temple, sitting with the Jewish teachers,



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questions. 47 All who heard him were amazed at his intelligent answers. 48 His parents were astonished when they saw him, and his mother said to him, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been terribly worried trying to find you.”



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49 He answered them, “Why did you have to look for me? Didn't you know that I had to be in my Father's house?” 50 But they did not understand his answer. 51 So Jesus went back with them to Nazareth, where he was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. Jesus grew both



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in body and in wisdom, gaining favour
with God and people.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God



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REFLECTION:

GROWING IN GRACE



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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God our Father, we thank and praise you,
for you love us with an everlasting love
and sent your Son to be our Saviour and
to show us your grace. Help us to grow in
your grace, being willing to submit to your
purposes and plans.



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Father God
Hear us and help us

God our Father, we pray for children growing up in unusual times, having to learn at home rather than in school. Be with children struggling with home life, especially for young carers.

Father God

Hear us and help us



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God our Father, we pray for the wider world, in all its present troubles. We pray for Myanmar, that democracy would be restored, that the elected government would be released and that peace and justice would prevail.

Father God

Hear us and help us



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God our Father, we pray for those who are persecuted for their faith. May their steadfastness and love be an example to their persecutors. Lord, give us the same courage to speak for you and witness to your grace.

Father God

Hear us and help us

Finally God our Father, we pray for those we love but see no longer. We pray for Mike and Jan as they travel to Mike's mother's funeral this week. Be close to them and their family and pour upon them the riches of your grace.

Father God

Hear us and help us



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All these things we pray in the name
of Christ our King.
Amen.



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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.



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**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.**

BEHOLD THE LAMB



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HOLY COMMUNION

We read in Scripture that on the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'



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After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.'



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**As often as we eat this bread
and drink this cup we proclaim
the Lord's death until he comes.**



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Therefore, gracious God, with this bread and this cup we remember that our Lord offered his life for us. Believing the witness of his resurrection and ascension, we look for his coming in glory, and our sharing in his great and promised feast.



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Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that these gifts of bread and wine may
be for us the body and blood of
Christ and that we may live to your
praise and glory with all your saints in
light.

Join our prayers and the prayers of all
your people on earth and in heaven with
the intercession of Christ, our great high
priest, **through whom, with whom,
and in whom, in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, all worship and honour
are yours, almighty God and Father,
for ever and ever. Amen.**



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The bread we break is a sharing in the
body of Christ.

Christ is the Bread of life.

The cup we take is a sharing in the
blood of Christ.

Christ is the true Vine.

The Body of Christ broken for you.

The Blood of Christ shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



We praise you, God, for the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation which you give for the life of the world. With this food for our journey bring us with your saints to the feast of your glory. Amen.



GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY



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CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING



Gracious Lord, as we go, teach us to walk in your grace so that we may listen to your Spirit and listen to those in pain, that we may be transformed with your unending love for the lost, the lonely and the broken; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



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And now may the blessing of God
Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit be with you and all whom you love,
now and for evermore.

Amen



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Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.