

Sunday, 3rd May 2026, 5:00pm

All creatures of our God and King,

lift up your voice and with us sing:
O praise Him! Hallelujah!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:

*O praise Him! O praise Him!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along:
O praise Him! Hallelujah!
Thou rising morn in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening find a voice:

3. And everyone, with tender heart,
forgiving others take your part:
O praise Him! Hallelujah!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care:

4. Let all things their Creator bless
and worship Him in humbleness:
O praise Him! Hallelujah!
Praise, praise the Father praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

Francis of Assisi 1225, tr. William Henry Draper 1919
Psalm 148 | Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Benediction

Notices & Matters for Prayer

Welcome to Oxford Pres! Whether this is your first service with us or you attend regularly, we offer you a warm welcome. Bibles and children’s activity sheets are available in the lobby. Feel free to stay for tea and coffee after the service.

Student Study Café ‘On the Road’ is on Monday, 9am-4pm

Rooted, our student night, meets on Tuesday, 7-9:30pm for food and Bible study.

North Gate Hall Anniversary Thursday 7th May. Give thanks to God for three years in this space! Pray for ongoing provision for the restoration and for Neil and Andy’s fundraising trip this week.

Central Prayer Meeting is on Thursday 7:30-9pm at Union House and online.

Stay & Play meets on Friday from 10-11:30am. See this week’s email for details.

Life Explored begins on Thursday 28th May for 4 weeks. See Gareth for further details.

Scan for a live translation of the service



Scan to sign up for our weekly email



*Scan for online tithes and offerings



Please be responsible for your property and (parents) your children whilst you are with us.

Please also be aware our services are livestreamed.

www.oxfordpres.co.uk | CCLI 1588630

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name for ever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.’ Psalm 145:1-3

Opening Prayer

God, my King, I will extol you,

Bless your name forevermore;
Every day, I’ll sing your goodness,
Hymn the greatness of the Lord.
You are praised through generations
Of your works we’ll always tell;
We will praise your matchless goodness,
Praise the God of Israel!

2. God is merciful and gracious,
Slow to anger, rich in love;
He is good to all his creatures,
Showers blessings from above.
All your works shall bless and thank you,
Tell of all your mighty deeds,
Celebrate your wondrous kingdom;
You shall reign in majesty!

3. Lord your throne will last forever,
You will reign from age to age;
You are faithful to your promise,
You are kind in all your ways;
You uphold the weak and falling,
Give your strength to weary feet;
From you hand you pour forth blessing,
Satisfy our every need.

4. God is righteous to his promise,
He is kind in all his ways;
He is near to those who seek him,
Yet the wicked casts away;
He fulfils the good desire,
Of his saints who fear his name;
Let all peoples praise his goodness
And forever sing his praise!

Psalm 145, Matt Searles | Tune: Dim Ond Iesu

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, we confess that we are under sin. Your holy word tells us that “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands, no one seeks for God.” We freely admit that we have turned aside and become worthless; we refrain from doing good; our throats are an open grave and our tongues deceive; the venom of asps is on our lips and our mouths are full of curses and bitterness. Our feet are swift to shed blood, our paths lead to ruin and misery, and we do not know the way of peace. We acknowledge that the fear of God is not in us or before us. Your law stops our mouths and with the whole world we stand accountable to you, our Creator and God. Have mercy on us we pray. Do not treat us as our sins deserve. Help us believe in Jesus Christ and receive by faith the promise of his redemption. May we gain Christ and be found in him and know the power of his resurrection in our lives. Amen.

from Romans 3:9–20

Assurance of Pardon

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Psalm 145:8-9

Mine are days that God has numbered;

I was made to walk with Him.
Yet I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings.

*But mine is hope in my Redeemer;
Though I fall, His love is sure.
For Christ has paid for every failing;
I am His forevermore.*

2. Mine are tears in times of sorrow;
Darkness not yet understood.
Through the valley, I must travel,
Where I see no earthly good.

*But mine is peace that flows from heaven
And the strength in times of need.
I know my pain will not be wasted.
Christ completes His work in me.*

3. Mine are days here as a stranger;
Pilgrim on a narrow way.
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name.

*But mine is armour for this battle,
Strong enough to last the war.
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore.*

*And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk.
For, there, my heart has found its treasure:
Christ is mine for evermore.*

Jonny Robinson & Rich Thompson © 2016 CityAlight Music

Confession of Faith

Minister: What is your only comfort in life and death?

Congregation: That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Heidelberg Catechism 1

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;

Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Be Thou my battle-shield, sword for the fight;
Be Thou my armour and be Thou my might;
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tower;
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

4. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

5. High King of heaven, after victory won;
May I reach heaven's joy, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Irish, c. 8th cent., tr. by Mary E Burne, 1880-1931 | Tune: Slane

Prayer for Understanding of God's Word

Bible Reading: Nehemiah 12:27-47

Sermon: Celebrating with Joy before the Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession