



Lord's Day Worship
Sunday 7th December 2025
10:00 a.m.

WELCOME!

Welcome to Veritas Church. We exist to please and glorify the triune God through His Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who is the incarnate second person of the Trinity, crucified, risen, exalted, and reigning as Head of the Church, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We hope you have a great time with us, and we'd love to get to know you. Feel free to stay after the service to meet us and get connected. You can also get in touch by emailing us at info@veritaschurch.co.uk or head to our website at veritaschurch.co.uk and fill out the contact form. Or just come and say hi!

At Veritas Church, we desire that our worship services be:

- **Biblical.** We want to be built on the Word of God top to bottom and all the way through. Everything we do will be determined and regulated by the Word. We will hear the Word, sing the Word, pray the Word, speak the Word, and see the Word throughout.
- **Shaped by the Gospel.** The service is structured to tell the gospel story. God calls us, we confess our sins, hear His forgiveness, then listen to the Word as it transforms us, responding in the celebration of the Lord's Supper, and ending in God's own words of blessing as we go.
- **Historically Connected.** We are just a tiny part of God's plan, but we are a part of it! As such, we will gladly take advantage of the wisdom of those who have gone before us, using catechisms, creeds, confessions, ancient prayers, and more.

Children. Children are a blessing from the Lord (Psalm 127:3) and your children are more than welcome at Veritas so please don't worry if they make noise. There are worksheets, a space at the back with toys for very young children, baby-changing facilities, and a mum's room with audio feed, should you wish to make use of any of those things.

"May I Participate in The Lord's Supper?" By participating in the Lord's Supper, you are affirming to the elders of this congregation that you are in covenant with God, having been baptised, and are active in this or another local church which is covenantally bound to the triune God through Word and sacrament. If you have any doubt about your participation, please speak with the elders before or after the service. Likewise, please speak with the elders before allowing your children to participate.

Giving. You can find out how to give at veritaschurch.co.uk/giving. There is also an offering box at the back of the room where GiftAid forms are also available. Veritas Church is a registered charity in England, number 1209204.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 134:1-2

Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord, who stand by night in the house of the Lord!

All: Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the Lord!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Great are you, O Lord, and greatly to be praised; great is your power, and of your wisdom there is no end. And man, being a part of your creation, desires to praise you — man, who bears about with him his mortality, the witness of his sin, even the witness that you resist the proud — yet man, this part of your creation, desires to praise you. You move us to delight in praising you; for you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Amen.

- Augustine

SONG: PSALM 5

1. O Jehovah hear my words;
To my thoughts attentive be.
Hear my cry, my King, my God,
For I make my prayer to thee.
With the morning light, O Lord,
Thou shalt hear my voice and cry;
In the morn my prayer arrange
And keep constant watch will I.

2. Truly Thou are not a God
That in sin doth take delight;
Evil shall not dwell with Thee,
Nor the proud stand in Thy sight.
Evil doers Thou dost hate;
Liars Thou wilt bring to naught.
God abhors the man who loves
Deed of blood or lying thought.

3. But in Thine abundant grace
To Thy house will I repair;
Looking to Thy holy place,
In Thy fear I'll worship there...

... Since, O Lord, mine enemies
For my soul do lie in wait,
Lead me in Thy righteousness;
Make Thy way before me straight.

4. For they flatter with their tongue;
In their mouth no truth is found;
Like an open grave their throat;
All their thoughts with sin abound.
Hold them guilty, O my God;
Them for all their sins expel;
Let them fall by their own craft,
For against Thee they rebel.

5. But let all that trust Thy care
Ever glad and joyful be;
Let them joy who love Thy name,
For they guarded are by Thee.
And a blessing rich, O Lord,
To the righteous Thou wilt yield;
Thou wilt compass him about
With Thy favour as a shield.

Joseph Parry, 1841-1903. © Public Domain

Since worship is always a response to who God is and what He has done, we begin our service with a call from God to the people, in the words of Scripture, to worship Him. Throughout the service, the congregation says the words in bold together.

We use historic prayers to help us express truth to God that we otherwise wouldn't say if we just used our own vocabulary.

We sing psalms and songs based closely on psalms because we are commanded to (Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19), and because psalms are inspired by the Holy Spirit. When we sing psalms, we are singing the Word of God.

We sing because this is one of the ways the Word of Christ dwells in us richly (Colossians 3:16), thereby building faith, and helping us grow in the knowledge of God.

Here we read the law of God that reveals two things to us: that God is holy, and that we fall short of His standards. This drives us to confess our sins to God who has assured us that everyone who truly comes to Him in repentance and faith will receive forgiveness.

Here we declare what Christians believe, and have believed throughout history. By doing this, we recognise that the faith we profess is the same faith that has been passed down since the time of Christ.

SONG: LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half-spent was the night.

2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
She bore to men a Saviour
When half-spent was the night.

3. The shepherds heard the story
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory,
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped
And in the manger found Him,
As angel heralds said.

4. This flow'r, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendour
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

5. O Saviour, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe,
O Saviour, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length we pray,
To the bright courts of Heaven
And to the endless day.

Text: German, c. 1400s; st 1-2, tr. Theodore Baker, 1984; st. 3-4 tr. Harriet R. Spaeth, 1875; st/ 5, tr. John Caspar Mattes, 1914. © Public Domain.

Be seated

READING OF THE LAW

Kneel if able

CONFESSION

Stand

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Your sins are forgiven. All: Thanks be to God!

PROFESSION

The Chalcedonian Definition

Following the saintly fathers, we all with one voice teach the confession of one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ: the same perfect in divinity and perfect in humanity, the same truly God and truly man, of a rational soul and a body; consubstantial with the Father as regards his divinity, and the same consubstantial with us as regards his humanity; like us in all respects except for sin; begotten before the ages from the Father as regards his divinity, and in the last days the same for us and for our salvation from Mary, the virgin God-bearer, as regards his humanity; ...

... one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, only-begotten, acknowledged in two natures which undergo no confusion, no change, no division, no separation; at no point was the difference between the natures taken away through the union, but rather the property of both natures is preserved and comes together into a single person and a single subsistent being; he is not parted or divided into two persons, but is one and the same only-begotten Son, God, Word, Lord Jesus Christ, just as the prophets taught from the beginning about him, and as the Lord Jesus Christ himself instructed us, and as the creed of the fathers handed it down to us.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 7 - What are the decrees of God?

A - The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

Be seated

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING Proverbs 29:1-27

PASTORAL PRAYER

Stand

SONG: PSALM 85b

1. I'll hear what God the Lord will say,
In peace He will address
His saints and people; let them not
Return to foolishness.

2. Nigh His salvation surely comes
To them that fear Him well,
That the great glory of our God
Within our land may dwell.

3. Mercy and truth together meet,
Justice and peace shall kiss.
From earth shall truth spring forth,
from heav'n
Shall look down righteousess.

4. The Lord shall give that which is good,
Our land its produce raise;
Before Him righteousness shall go
To set us in His ways.

Scottish Psalter, 1641, © Public Domain

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is a concise summary of Christian doctrine, produced by the Westminster Assembly. Alongside the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger Catechism, it is a foundational text of Presbyterian and other Reformed churches.

Here we pray that God, through His Spirit, would prepare our hearts and minds to understand and believe His Word.

The sermon is teaching and pointed application based on Scripture. This is not just an intellectual exercise. The role of the sermon is to make plain the truths of the gospel and to call us to respond to those truths.

Be seated

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Merciful Lord, the comforter and teacher of your faithful people, increase in your church the desires which you have given, and confirm the hearts of those who hope in you by enabling them to understand the depth of your promises, that all of your adopted sons may even now behold, with the eyes of faith, and patiently wait for, the light which as yet you do not openly manifest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- Ambrose

SERMON: HOW THE WORLD WORKS II

Rev. David Scholes

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever, Amen.

SONG: COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

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Be seated

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Stand

SONG: O SAVIOUR REND THE HEAVENS WIDE

1. O Saviour, rend the heavens wide;
Come down, come down with mighty stride;
Unbar the gates, the doors break down;
Unbar the way to Heaven's crown.

2. O Father, dew from heaven send;
As gentle dew, O Son, descend.
Drop down, you clouds, and torrents bring;
To Jacob's line rain down a King.

3. O earth, in flow'ring bud be seen;
Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
O earth, bring forth this Blossom rare;
O Saviour, rise from meadow fair.

4. Hear dreadful doom upon us lies;
Death looms to grim before our eyes.
O come, lead us with mighty hand
From exile to our fatherland.

5. There will we all our praises bring
Ever to Thee, our Saviour King;
There will we laud Thee and adore
Forever and forevermore.

© Public Domain. Text: Friedrich von Spee, 1623;
tr. Martin L. Seltz, 1965.

The congregation raises hands

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Romans 16:25-27

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith — to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

The Lord's Supper is the spiritual meal of the Church. It was instituted by Christ and we eat and drink to remember Him to renew covenant with Him, and to have the results of His work applied to our lives by the Spirit. Please hold the bread and wine in your hand until everyone has been served before eating and drinking.

The charge is a summary of the key applications of the sermon, to encourage you not to leave behind what you've learned at church, but to apply it to your life. This is followed by a benediction (blessing), from Christ to His people.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 12th December, 6:30pm - **Beer & Carols** (Grimsargh Village Hall)

Tuesday 16th December, 8pm - **Bible Study & Prayer Meeting** (Venue TBC)

Thursday 25th December, 10am - **Christmas Day Service** (The Grimsargh Club)

Sunday 11th January, 10am - **Roman Whytell's Baptism** (The Grimsargh Club)

Sunday 18th January, 10am - **Arthur Carter's Baptism**, followed by a **Sabbath Feast** (Grimsargh Village Hall)

SAVE THE DATE: Dr. Timothy Edwards will be with us Saturday 24th January (**Men's Breakfast**, followed by **Christian Education Seminar**), and Sunday 25th January (preaching)

See website for more details - veritaschurch.co.uk

Sign up sheets available at the back.

info@veritaschurch.co.uk

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