



**SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL**

**25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

## WELCOME TO VERITAS CHURCH

*All of Life Under the Lord Jesus Christ*

Veritas Church exists because of God's grace and for the sake of His glory. In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we welcome you to join us in our highest privilege: worshipping the Triune God. In this service, the Father renews covenant with His people in Christ and through the Holy Spirit. We receive God's gifts through Word and sacrament, and respond in faithful prayer and sacrificial praise, through our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ. If you'd like to learn more about why we worship the way we do, please ask an elder. Simply put, we desire that our worship service is:

- **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.

The Order of Worship which is in your hands provides instructions throughout, with extra information in the grey margins. The congregation speaks or sings the words in **bold**. Those who are able are invited to **kneel** during the confession of sin. We also encourage everyone to give a hearty **"Amen!"** after every prayer and song, and to raise your hands to our Father in heaven during the sung doxology at the end of the service.

We delight in having our covenant children with us in the service. They are part of God's royal priesthood, just as much as their parents! Jesus tells us in Scripture that they are models for us in entering the Kingdom because of their humble faith (Mark 10:13-16). We appreciate that children can be noisy at times, and that there may be occasion for you to take them out of the room for care or discipline. Please do so as necessary, but please also minimise coming and going during worship as much as possible.

For visitors, we are very glad you are with us. Please do introduce yourselves to the pastor and our members after the service. We would enjoy getting to know you. Please also consider filling out a details form at the resource desk, placing it in the offering box, to enable us to keep in touch with you.

**"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](http://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.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, 8pm - **Bible Study & Prayer Meeting** (the Carter house)

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 8pm - **Bible Study & Prayer Meeting** (the Scholes house)

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February - **Psalm Roar, Cumbria** (St. James' Church, Burton in Kendal)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 8pm - **Members' Meeting** (The Carter house)

### Sunday Venue Locations:

1<sup>st</sup> February - Grimsargh Club

8<sup>th</sup> February - Longridge Civic Hall

15<sup>th</sup> February - Grimsargh Club

22<sup>nd</sup> February - Longridge Civic Hall



## THE LORD CALLS US

Let us stand together to worship the Triune God.

### **CALL TO WORSHIP: ROMANS 11:33-36**

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

**All: For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

O you high and holy One that inhabits eternity, you are to be feared and loved by all your servants. All your works praise you, O God; and we especially give thanks unto you for your marvelous love in Christ Jesus, by whom you have reconciled the world to yourself. You have given us exceeding great and precious promises. You have sealed them with his blood. You have confirmed them by his resurrection and ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit. We thank you that you have given us so many happy opportunities of knowing the truth as it is in Jesus, even the mystery which was hid from ages and generations, but is now revealed to them that believe. Amen

*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.*

## O Lord, Please Answer When I Call

Based on Psalm 4

Music: Scottish hymn melody  
Text: Douglas Wilson, 2022 ©

CAMERONIAN MIDNIGHT HYMN  
8 8. 8 8.

294

## From Heaven, O Praise the LORD

From Psalm 148

Music: Horatio R. Palmer (1834-1907)  
Text: *Trinity Psalter*, 1994 ©

ST. CATHERINE'S  
6 6. 6 6. 4 4. 4 4.

4

5

# WE CONFESS AND ARE CLEANSED

## READING OF THE LAW (BE SEATED)

## CONFESsION (KNEEL AS ABLE)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON (STAND)

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

## PROFESSION

### The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only-begotten 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; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall 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.

### The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 14 - What is sin?

A - Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

## SCRIPTURE READING: 1 TIMOTHY 5:1-25

## PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

\* In the creed, 'catholic' refers to the universal church, not the Roman Catholic church.

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.

(STAND)

## That Man Is Blessed (Psalm 1)

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. Psalm 1:5-6

1. That man is blest who, fear - ing God, from sin re-strains his feet,  
2. For blest is he who makes God's law his por-tion and de - light,  
3. That man is nour-ished like a tree set by the riv - ers' side;  
4. The wick - ed, like the driv - en chaff, are swept from off the land;  
5. The Lord will guard the right-eous well—their way to Him is known;

who will not stand with wick - ed men, who shuns the scorn-ers' seat.  
and med - i - tates up - on that law with glad-ness day and night.  
its leaf is green, its fruit is sure, and all his works a - bide.  
they shall not gath - er with the just, nor in the judg-ment stand.  
the way of sin - ners, far from God, shall soon be o - ver-thrown.

TEXT: *The Psalter*, 1912

MUSIC: *Scottish Psalter*, 1615

DUNFIRLINE

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# THE LORD CONSECRATES US

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

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (BE SEATED)

O God, be present with us now and dwell within our hearts. With your light and your Spirit guide our hearts, our thoughts, and all our actions, so that your Word may be heard clearly and your healing power experienced in us and in your church universal. Amen

- Philip Melanchthon

## SERMON

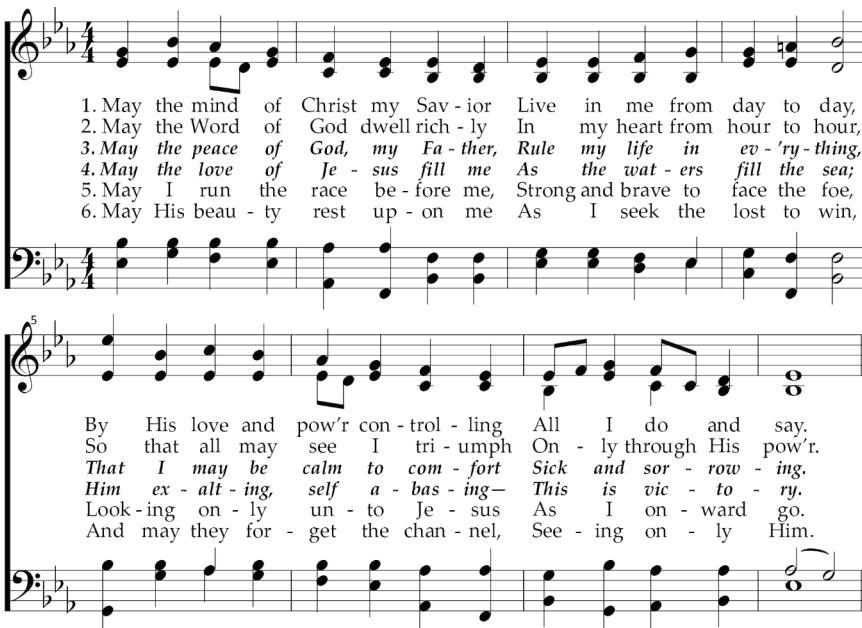
Dr. Timothy Edwards

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.**

(STAND)

## 388 May the Mind of Christ My Savior



Music: A. Cyril Barham-Gould, 1925

Text: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925

ST. LEONARD'S  
8 7. 8 5.

*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 LORD COMMUNES WITH US

## THE LORD'S SUPPER (BE SEATED)

1. And can it be that I should gain An in - trest in the  
 2. 'Tis mys - 'try all! Th'Im-mor - tal dies: Who can ex - plore His  
 3. He left His Fa - ther's throne a - bove - So free, so in - fi -  
 4. Long my im - pris - oned spir - it lay Fast bound in sin and  
 5. No con - dem - na - tion now I dread; Je - sus, and all in

Sav - ior's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who  
 strange de - sign? In vain the first - born ser - aph tries To sound the  
 nite His grace! Hum - bled Him - self, so great His love, And bled for  
 na - ture's night. Thine eye dif - fused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the  
 Him, is mine! A - live in Him, my liv - ing Head, And clothed in

Him to death pur - sued? A - maz-ing love! How can it be  
 depths of love di - vine. 'Tis mer - cy all! Let earth a - dore,  
 all His cho - sen race. Tis mer - cy all, im - mense and free,  
 dun - geon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free;  
 right - eous - ness di - vine, Bold I ap - proach th'e - ter - nal throne

That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
 Let an - gel minds in - quire no more. A - maz-ing love! How  
 For, O my God, it found out me.  
 I rose, went forth, and fol - lowed Thee. A - maz-ing love!  
 And claim the crown, through Christ my own.

can it be That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
 How can it be That Thou, my God,

## THE LORD COMMISSIONS US

(THE CONGREGATION RAISES HANDS)

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A-men.

Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; alt.  
 Text: Thomas Ken, 1709

OLD HUNDREDTH  
 8 8. 8 8.

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.

## CHARGE & BENEDICTION

### 2 Thessalonians 3:18

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

## OUR ELDERS' SESSION

David Scholes (Pastor) - [david.scholes@veritaschurch.co.uk](mailto:david.scholes@veritaschurch.co.uk)  
Andy Carter (Parish Elder) - [andy.carter@veritaschurch.co.uk](mailto:andy.carter@veritaschurch.co.uk)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Web:** [veritaschurch.co.uk](http://veritaschurch.co.uk)

**Email:** [info@veritaschurch.co.uk](mailto:info@veritaschurch.co.uk)

**Phone:** 07885 435910 (Pastor Dave)

***More resources and information are available at the back of the room.***

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information about Veritas



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church's music

