



SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

25TH OCTOBER 2026

REFORMATION SUNDAY



COMMUNION
of REFORMED
EVANGELICAL
CHURCHES

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. Parents, please speak with the elders before your children first come to the Table. Baptised children who can eat solid food and are being taught the faith by their parents are welcome, with the elders' approval.

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. You can also give to the Deacon's Fund by marking your gift 'Deacons' Fund'. Veritas Church is a registered charity in England, number 1209204.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEDITATION

The Lord by with you! **And also with you.**

Friday 30th October - **Men's Beer & Psalms, 8-9:30pm**, at the Carter house

Sundays 1st & 8th November - **venue change**, Grimsargh Village Hall

Tuesday 3rd November - **Men's Breakfast, 6-7am**, at the Carter house

Thursday 12th November - **Prayer Meeting, 8-9pm**, at the Scholes house

Meditation

Prepare your hearts and minds for worship.



THE LORD CALLS US

Let us stand together to worship the Triune God.

The Lord is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed!

*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.*

RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING: PSALM 147:1

Praise the Lord!

**For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of
praise is fitting.**

Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

If you had not been my shield and defense, innumerable evils would have surrounded me and danger would have overcome me, that I could not have left my bed and risen in health—therefore it becomes me to praise my God. Early do I seek you, and in the morning shall my prayer ascend unto you, that you would this day preserve me and all mine, from the devices and power of the devil, from sin and shame, and from all evil. Amen. (Johann Habermann)

1. A might - y for - tress is our God, A bul - wark nev - er fail - ing;
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be los - ing;
 3. And though this world with dev - ils filled Should threat - en to un - do us,
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, No thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

Our help - er He a - mid the flood, Of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos - ing.
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri - umph through us.
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sid - eth.

For still our an - cient foe Doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is He; Lord Sab - a - oth
 The prince of dark - ness grim, We trem - ble not for him; His rage we can
 Let goods and kin - dred go, This mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they

are great, And armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 His name, From age to age the same, And He must win the bat - tle.
 en - dure, For lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell him.
 may kill; God's truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

Music: Martin Luther, 1529; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1628; alt.
 Text: Martin Luther, 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853

EIN' FESTE BURG
 8 7. 8 7. 6 6. 6 6 7.

Why do we sing the psalms?

Singing the psalms in church gives God's people words that God himself has given us, teaching us how to praise, lament, confess, rejoice, plead, remember, and hope before him. The Psalter is the Bible's own hymnbook, centred on Christ and fulfilled in him, so when the church sings the psalms, she is not merely borrowing ancient poetry but joining her voice to the prayers and praises of Christ and his covenant people through the ages. Psalm-singing also forms the congregation in the full emotional and theological range of biblical faith, guarding us from worship that is too narrow, sentimental, or man-centred, and training us to bring every part of life under the lordship of Christ. In this way, the psalms unite doctrine, devotion, and discipleship, giving the church a vocabulary of worship that is inspired, enduring, and deeply fitted for the gathered praise of God.

Psalm 53

To the chief Musician upon Mahalath. Maschil. A Psalm of David.

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Cor - rupt are they,
and have done a - bom - in - a - ble in - iq - ui - ty; There is none that do - eth good.
God looked down from Heav'n up - on the chil - dren of men,
To see if there were an - y that did un - der - stand, That did seek God.
Ev - 'ry one of them is gone back; they are al - to - geth - er be - come filth - y;
There is none that do - eth good, no, not one.
Have all the work - ers of in - iq - ui - ty no know - ledge,
Who eat up my peo - ple as they eat bread: they have not called up - on God?
There were they in great fear, where no fear was;
For God hath scat - tered the bones of him that en - camp - eth a - gainst thee:
Thou hast put them to shame, be - cause God hath de - spised them.

Music: David R. Erb, 2016 ©

Text: Holy Bible, King James Version, 1611

3-part canon

Oh that the sal - va - tion of Is - rael were come out of Zi - on!
When God bring - eth back the cap - ti - vi - ty of His peo - ple,
Ja - cob shall re - joice, and Is - ra - el shall be glad.

WE CONFESS AND ARE CLEANSED

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.

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

Christian, what do you believe?

We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin, Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into Hades; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into Heaven; and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic* church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

** In the creed, 'catholic' means global or universal, not Roman Catholic.*

The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 53. Which is the third commandment?

A. The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

SCRIPTURE READING: DEUTERONOMY 23:1-25 ^(BE SEATED)

PASTORAL PRAYER

(STAND)

73b

Don't Be Distressed by Evil Men

Cont'd, Psalm 37:21-40

5. The wick-ed owes and does not pay. Good men show mer-cy and give grace.
6. Through man-y years, I've nev-er seen Good men for-sak-en in their need
7. The right-eous shall in-her-it earth For-ev-er and no more know death.
8. Wait on the LORD and keep His ways; He will ex-alt you in this place.
9. Be-hold the blame-less and up-right—Their fu-ture holds no dread or fright.

22 The bless-ed will re-ceive the earth, But curs-ed men will be cut
Nor their de-scend-ants beg for food—26 How blest the chil-dren of the
30 Their mouths are wise, their tongues are just, 31 And God's true law is their heart's
You'll see the wick-ed be ex-pelled 35 Though they in pow-er once ex-
38 But sin-ners all shall be de-stroyed—Their fu-ture holds no peace or

off. 25 GOD guides the steps of the up-right; In all their ways
good! 27 De-part from sin, do what is right, And you will have
trust. 32 The wick-ed watch with e-vil plans And seek to slay
celled. They grew and spread like might-y oaks, 36 But God has felled
joy. 38 The right-eous know GOD's sav-ing hand. He is their strength;

11 He takes de-light. 24 Though good men stum-ble, they will stand When GOD up-
e-ter-nal life. 28 God won't for-sake the saints He loves; But wick-ed
the right-eous man, 33 But God won't see His saints con-demned; He'll vin-di-
them with a stroke. I sought them where they thrived be-fore, But they are
He makes them stand. 40 He saves them from the wick-ed men, He res-cues

15 holds them with His hand, When GOD up-holds them with His hand.
men will be cut off, But wick-ed men will be cut off.
cate and will de-fend, He'll vin-di-cate and will de-fend.
gone—they are no more. But they are gone—they are no more.
all who trust in Him, He res-cues all who trust in Him.

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.

THE LORD CONSECRATES US

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (BE SEATED)

SERMON - THE CONDITION OF THE CHURCH: IF THE FOUNDATIONS BE DESTROYED

Pastor David Scholes

(STAND)

725

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

Cantor Congregation

8 9 Our Father who art in Heav-en, Hal-low-ed be Thy name. 10 Thy king-dom come.

5 8 Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heav-en. 11 Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

8 12 And for-give us our tres-pass-es as we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us.

10 8 13 And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-liv-er us from e-vil; For Thine is the

12 8 king-dom and the pow'r and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

Music Traditional, very ancient

Text Holy Bible, King James Version, 1611

Come, Ye Disconsolate

1. Come, ye dis - con - so-late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish, Come to the
 2. Joy of the des - o-late, light of the stray - ing, Hope of the
 3. Here see the Bread of Life; see wa-ters flow - ing Forth from the

mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel. Here bring your wound - ed hearts,
 pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure! Here speaks the Com - fort - er,
 throne of God, pure from a - bove. Come to the feast of love;

here tell your an - guish; Earth has no sor-row that Heav'n can-not heal.
 ten - der - ly say - ing, "Earth has no sor-row that Heav'n can-not cure."
 come, ev - er know - ing Earth has no sor-row but Heav'n can re - move.

Music: Samuel Webbe, Sr.; *Collection of Motetts or Antiphons*, London, 1792
 Text: st. 1-2, Thomas Moore, 1816; st. 3, Thomas Hastings, 1831

CONSOLATOR
 11 10. 11 10.

*Here we consciously
 bring our gifts to the Lord
 in response to His
 manifold kindness to us.
 This act of worship is not
 paying dues, but cheerful
 giving, and we pray that
 God would use it for the
 advance of His Kingdom
 and the good of His
 people.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH USTHE LORD'S SUPPER (BE SEATED)

*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.*

STAND

Psalm 121

A Song of Ascents.

Music: David R. Erb, 2013 ©

Text: *Holy Bible, New King James Version, 1982* ©

DOXOLOGY

(THE CONGREGATION RAISES HANDS)

734

Doxology

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.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

(YOU MAY WISH TO EXTEND YOUR HANDS PALMS UPWARD DURING THE BENEDICTION AS A SIGN OF YOU RECEIVING THE LORD'S BLESSING)

Ephesians 6:23-24

Peace be to the brothers, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

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.

OUR ELDERS' SESSION

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

Scan for more
information about Veritas



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church's music

