Service for Epiphany 5

Welcome:

Welcome in the name of Christ.

God’s grace, mercy and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

God of our days and years,

We set this time apart for you.

Speak your words of peace

to our troubled minds and distracted hearts.

Form us in the likeness of Christ

So that our lives may glorify you. **Amen.**

Opening hymn: Speak O Lord

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us  
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us Lord, full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise  
Cause our eyes to see,  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, ’til your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

Confession:

Seeing we have a great high priest

Who as passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God,

Let us draw near with a true heart

In full assurance of faith

And make our confession to our heavenly Father.

**Most merciful God,**

**Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**We confess that we have sinned**

**In thought, word and deed.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.**

**In your mercy forgive what we have been**

**Help us to amend what we are**

**And direct what we shall be;**

**That we may do justly, love mercy**

**And walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Almighty God,

Who forgives all who truly repent,

Have mercy upon us,

Pardon and deliver us from all our sins,

Confirm and strengthen us in all goodness

And keep us in eternal life;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Reading: John 1:1-14

Word and Life:

Chorus: Come on and celebrate

Come on and celebrate

His gift of love, we will celebrate

The Son of God who loved us

And gave us life.

We’ll shout your praise, O King,

You give us joy nothing else can bring

We’ll give to you our offering

In celebration praise.

*Come on and celebrate, celebrate,*

*Celebrate and sing,*

*Celebrate and sing to the King* (*repeat*)

Light:

Prayers:

We draw our prayers to a close with the prayer our Lord taught us:

**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.**

Closing Hymn: In Christ alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,

He is my light, my strength, my song;

This cornerstone, this solid ground,

Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,

When fears are stilled, and strivings cease!

My comforter, my all in all,

Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone – who took on flesh,

Fullness of God in helpless Babe!

This gift of love and righteousness,

Scorned by the ones he came to save

Till on that cross as Jesus died,

The wrath of God was satisfied,

For every sin on Him was laid;

Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,

Light of the world by darkness slain,

Then, bursting forth in glorious day,

Up from the grave he rose again!

And as He stands in victory

Sin’s curse has lost its grip on me,

For I am His and He is mine –

Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,

This is the power of Christ in me;

From life’s first cry to final breath,

Jesus commands my destiny.

No power of hell, no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand;

Till he returns or calls me home,

Here in the power of Christ I’ll stand!

Blessing:

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding,

keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge

and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of God almighty,

the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

Be with you all this day and for ever more. **Amen.**