Behold the Man

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Date: 04 December 2022

Preacher: Rev George MacAskill

[0:00] Now let us begin our service of worship by singing to God's praise from Psalm 145. Now there are two versions of this psalm. We sing the first version which is the common meter version

And we'll be singing that for the first three psalms. Psalm 145. We'll sing verses Mark 1 to 7.

I'll thee extol, my God, O King. I'll bless thy name always. Thee will I bless each day and will thy name forever praise.

Down to verse 7. The memory of thy goodness great they largely shall express with songs of praise. They shall extol thy perfect righteousness.

Psalm 145 verses 1 to 7. Amen. Thee will I bless each day and will thy name forever.

[1:04] Thee will I bless each day and will thy name forever.

Thee will I bless each day and will thy name forever praise.

ailah praise host again forever. Oh Oh Oh

Oh Oh Let us bow our heads in prayer.

Our gracious Father in heaven, you are high, you are holy, you are incontestably sovereign, you are the sole proprietor of everything there is, you are mighty in power, you are holy without sin, and we are thy fallen creatures.

[4:26] We bow before you, eternal one, and thank you that you did not instantly consign us to a lost eternity the moment we sinned.

We thank you, eternal God, that you are above all things merciful, gracious, kind, long-suffering towards sinners, and every one of us are sinful.

Sinners in thought, word, and practice. Heavenly Father, we bow before you, and thank you, and worship you.

We have just been singing that the memory of thy goodness that we are to express with songs of praise.

So help us do that, eternal God. Sing from our hearts to your praise and glory, for you alone are worthy.

Our gracious God, we ask that you would work by your Holy Spirit within our souls, that we could see the beauty of holiness in your Son, that we could see his great love for us.

Gracious God, it is of your mercies were not consumed. And when the price of our redemption was nothing short of the sending of your Son to Calvary, you did not withhold him.

But Lord, as we are by nature, we see no beauty in him until you open our eyes. To see

So, heavenly Father, as we gather round your word this morning, help us. Help us behold him.

Help us see his beauty. Empower and enable us to embrace him, as he's freely offered to us in the gospel.

[6:57] Give us your Holy Spirit in mighty power to that end. We thank you for this congregation. We pray your presence amongst them and upon them, not least on the 15th of December.

Preside, Lord, and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Our gracious God, we bless you that you have not blessed us in the dark.

You have given us your word. You have given us preachers of the word. You have given us your Holy Spirit, so that we know when we gather together, according to your word.

We know you are present. And we pray that you would be present to bless, to bring into your kingdom, to save souls, to sanctify saints, and to subdue sinners, incorrigible sinners, who refuse to receive mercy and be sorry for their behavior.

Oh, Lord God, continue your long suffering toward us. We pray, Father, for our land and nation.

[8:31] Have mercy. We have, it seems, godless rulers. Forgive us for removing from our statute book every remembrance of your word.

Be pleased either to grant repentance and a change of heart and life to those who lead us and to those of us who vote for them.

For we are responsible for who we put in power. We ask, Lord, either change these leaders or raise up those who are worthy and who will defend and replace our own thoughts, our own ideas, our own agendas with your word and your ways and your laws.

We ask for that. we pray for our new prime minister. We pray for our new king. We pray for counselors, advisors, policy makers, judges.

Lord, for your own name's glory, we pray for it. We pray for the nations of the world that know strife and warfare and not least, not least, not least, the persecuted church.

[10:01] We thank you for the grace you've given them and we pray that you continue to be with them and we thank you for the way they're determined to persist in worshiping you despite what it may cost them.

What an example they are to us. We pray for them. We pray for all who know tragedy and calamity, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, tragedies, crowd, all sorts of problems.

Lord, remember all in need. Graciously, comfort, console, and heal. We humbly pray. We ask, O Lord, you'd bless those who are in great need with sorrow, pain, sadness.

Comfort, console, as only you can. Be pleased, Lord, to be with any who are seriously ill. Bless medication, treatment, therapies, surgeries, all means of recovery where they are available and where they are not available.

May it please you to heal apart from any human means where that is to your glory and for their good.

[11:29] Be with us all now. Give us your Holy Spirit. Open our hearts. Renew our minds. Transform our natures.

Save our souls. Bless us. Remember what we've forgotten to pray for. Hear in mercy, answer in peace as we pray only in Jesus' name and for his sake alone.

Amen. Boys and girls, I'm seeing one or two of you. Just a story. They're used at this time of year, I'm sure, to what we call Christmas stories.

Well, this is a story in the middle of December or the beginning of December about a Sunday school partly in the middle of summer. You know how all the boys play games and run about at these parties?

Well, there's this little boy and he was running about and all of a sudden he screamed out and said, Oh, Mummy, Mummy, see what I've done? He stood on an ant hill and he, I think he killed a few of the ants but he certainly destroyed their ant hill, their home and he was so upset and he said, Mummy, Mummy, I love these ants and I'm so sorry what's happened to them.

[12:53] I want to tell them how can I explain to them that I didn't mean to do it, that I'm sorry for the trouble they're in and I love them. How can I tell them I love them?

And her mother said, Oh, well, Johnny, she said, I don't know how, the only way you could explain it to them is if you became an ant just like them.

That's the only way you could do it because they don't understand you now. Well, you know, boys and girls, that's a picture of Jesus coming into the world.

He became one of us so that he could explain to us what went wrong with the world. You know, there's terrible things going on in the world.

Wars, tragedies, fighting, death, disease, violence. What's the explanation? Why are there these things in the world?

[13:55] Jesus is the answer and he came into the world to explain that to us in our own language that we could understand. But he came for something else.

He came to die and because he's God he couldn't die unless he became a human being. so he came to die. And you know, the Christmas story is all about Jesus coming into the world.

But remember, he came to die and he became one of us. You know how much nobody wants to be like an ant or a worm?

Well, Jesus did more. He became a human being like us and he was God. God. Okay, so with all the excitement about this time of year, you remember that.

Why Jesus came into the world. He came to be one of us so that he could die for us and pay for our sins. Okay?

[15:02] Very good. And well, let's continue to worship God by singing from the same psalm, the first version, the common meter version of Psalm 145 and we now sing verses 8 to 14.

The Lord is very gracious. In him compassion's flow. In mercy he is very great and is to anger slow.

Down to verse 14. Thy kingdom shall forever stand. Thy reign through ages all. God raiseth all that are bowed down, upholdeth all that fall.

Psalm 145 verses 8 to 14. The Lord is very gracious in him compassion's flow.

In mercy he is angels to all it to let self begin and over all its other hearts its tender mercy done thee all thy works shall praise O Lord and the light it shall bless it shall thy kingdom flourish oh thy color might be blessed to to mick

[17:22] ICO hello tin them n t or love many Laserriters are Oh Jesus I love Amen.

f Psn 7 Whoever Let us turn in our Bibles to the Gospel of John chapter 19.

The Gospel of John chapter 19 and just now we'll read verses 1 to 18. Gospel of John chapter 19.

Then Pilate therefore took Jesus and scourged him. And the soldiers plaited a crown of thorns and put it on his head.

And they put on him a purple rope and said, Hail, King of the Jews. And they smote him with their hands. Pilate therefore went forth again and saith unto them, Behold, I bring him forth to you that he may know that I find no fault in him.

[19:49] Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns and a purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold, the man.

When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto him, Take ye him and crucify him.

For I find no fault in him. The Jews answered him, We have a law. And by our law he ought to die. Because he made himself the son of God.

When Pilate therefore heard that scene, he was the more afraid. And he went again into the judgment hall and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou?

But Jesus gave him no answer. Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? Knows thou not that I have power to crucify thee and have power to release thee?

[20:55] Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except that were given thee from above.

Therefore, he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin. And from henceforth Pilate sought to listen.

But the Jews cried out again, saying, If thou let this man go, Thou art not Caesar's friend. Whosoever makes himself a king speaketh against Caesar.

When Pilate therefore heard that scene, he brought Jesus forth and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha.

And it was the preparation of the Passover. And about the sixth hour, and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your king. But they cried out, Away with him!

[21:58] Away with him! Crucify him! Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your king? The chief priest answered, We have no king but Caesar.

Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus and led him away.

And he, bearing his cross, went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha, where the crucified him, and two other with him, on either side one, and Jesus in the midst.

May God bless the very reading of his word to us. Now we'll sing the last four stanzas of the same psalm we've been singing in.

The first version, the common meter version, of Psalm 145, at verse 17. The Lord is just in all his ways, holy in his works all.

[23:13] God's near to all that call on him, in truth that on and call. Down to the last verse. My mouth, the praises of the Lord, to publish, cease shall never.

Let all flesh bless his holy name, forever and forever. Psalm 145, verses 17 to 21.

The Lord is just in all his ways, holy in his works all.

God's near to all that call on him, and take truth that on him call.

He will accomplish the desire of himself. "What will things be done?' He will accomplish the strength of his Lord, what in the midst of him call.

[24:32] He will accomplish the promise of my life, and The Lord is just in all his ways, .

. . . .

. But the presence of the Lord to the peace he shall never Let the presence of the Lord be in him forever and forever Let us turn now to the passage of scripture which we read the gospel of John chapter 19 and as God would help me to concentrate on the last part of verse 5

So we'll read the whole verse again John chapter 19 verse 5 Then came Jesus forth wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe and Pilate saith unto them Behold the man Behold the man At this point it's not exactly clear why Pilate asked this question or made this statement Behold the man Was he mocking him?

Or was he hoping that the pitiful sight of Christ and the condition he was in that it might make the crowd release him?

[27:18] There are so many contradictions in what Pilate was doing At one stage he says I find no fault in him And yet at the same time he says At the same time he scourges him He says at one point what evil has he done?

And yet he chastises him He says he wants to release him And yet he finally says take him and do what you want with him However uncertain we may be about Pilate's motives One thing is very clear That these three words which he states Behold the man They echo The way of salvation As John the Baptist said on another occasion Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world So as God would help me I'd like you to concentrate on these three words It's perhaps helpful at this stage to note That this was really

This trial of Christ's It was really a mock trial They changed the charge Imagine During the course of a trial They changed the charge against them From blasphemy With original charge They changed it to treason Now it's interesting to note Two trials in fact You could say Jesus was sitting through here As I say There were mock trials It was first of all the religious trial Before Caiaphas the high priest And then secondly There was a civil trial Before Pilate The Roman governor That's what arrives at this stage When we look at the words Behold the man And for once We're going to follow a man Who was not, it appears A good man

When he says Behold the man Because the man Is the man Christ Jesus So I want to look at it By just asking Three questions First of all What kind Of man Secondly What kind Of condition The man was in When we were asked to behold him And thirdly What kind of Beholding Because the word Behold As it's used Especially in authorised Version Can mean different things First of all What kind Of man Because Christ Was A man But he was no Mere Man He was no Ordinary Man He was a Perfect Man He was a Sinless

Man He was actually The ultimate In humanity In itself Human nature Is not sinful In itself You and I have Sinful Human nature We sinned So we now have Sinful humanity But in itself Christ Who never Sinned He Was The ultimate Human Being The perfect Sinless Human Being What kind Of man Not only No mere Man No ordinary Man But he was a Man who Performed Miracles Think of What he had Done He cured Killer Diseases Now you would Think somebody That could do That would be Popular

Wouldn't you He healed People With killer Diseases He had power Over nature He could Say to a Storm Be still And instantly The wind And the seas Obey him Cal Cal Mac Would do A lot With a man Like that He'd Power Over nature He'd Power Over disease And death He raised Them from The dead He'd Power Over The underworld And it is

Interesting To not With all That power With the Ability to Do all These things He refused As it were To perform Just for Show He refused To use His power To impress People He refused To show His power To entertain People It was Always To do Good He used His power And to Obey His father Thirdly What kind Of man No mere Man No ordinary Man A man Who performed Miracles But thirdly A man Totally Committed To his Mission On earth What was His mission On earth Why was He brought Into the World Why did He come Into the World Do you Know why Why was He born

Do you Know why He was Born So that He could Die You see As we'll Note He's God But God Cannot Die And in the Councils of A past Eternity When God Was planning To save Human beings And have Them in Heaven With them Their sin Had to be Paid for But what Could pay For an Innumerable Number of Sins of An innumerable Number of People What Could Pay for It Only The Substitutionary Death And punishment Of the Second person Of the Godhead But God Can't Die So I Speak Reverently There was A problem In the Councils Of a Past Eternity And Christ

Is called The wisdom Of God Precisely Because God Solved The problem If The second Person Of the Godhead Who Cannot Die If he Becomes A human Being Then his Human Nature Can Die That's The man We're Asked To Behold And by Beholding Him There's Life In his Name He Totally Committed To his Mission To pay For sin By dying On the Cross He was Absolutely Determined About going To the Cross And paying For their Sin You remember When Christ's Chief Spokesman Tried to Peter Tried to Stop him Going to The cross He What did He say To him Get Behind Me

Satan I Have Come To die So that You might Have life And no One Is going To stop Me Going to That cross His Determination To fulfill The purpose Of his Creation Behold That man Because that Man is Worth Beholding Fourthly What kind Of man A man Passionately Interested In sinners Not just Human beings He had Respect for Human beings A way Above respect For animals But it Wasn't just Human beings It was Ungodly Unholy Human beings It's

Interesting No amount Of holiness Would have Brought Christ To earth Think of That Who are All Perfectly Holy That would Not have Brought him To earth Because our Holiness here Couldn't match The holiness He was in In heaven And yet Our Unholiness Our Sinfulness Brought him Into this World That's Mind boggling When you Think on it I Always Remember A man An old Man He was Very old Man And People in His company Were complaining About what an Awful world We're living in Truthfully of course We are living In an awful Sinful world But at last This old man Said Well He said I'm not

Going to Say anything Against this World Because This Is the World I Found Christ In So I'm Not going To say Anything Against it He had A point Of course He agreed It was Unholy And fearful And wicked But he said Christ is in This world And we can Find him In this World And if we Don't Find him In this World We'll never Find him In the Next No Mere Man No Ordinary Man A man Who Performed Miracles Who Went About Doing Good A man Totally Committed In rescuing And saving Sinners Who are Unholy And finally A man Who was Also God

It's actually Helpful to Think Jesus Was not 50% Man And 50% God It's not Quite Right He was 100% Man And 100% God Fully God Fully Man And here's The thing The more You got To know Him The more Convinced You were He really Was God As well As man If you Really Studied Him If you Really Knew Him You Became Totally Convinced The more You knew Him The more He really Was Who he Claimed To be So you Might ask Well how Did he get Himself From this Position If he's Got all That power

And all That goodness How is he In the state And condition He's He's Going to Be Crucified Why doesn't He destroy His enemies The answer Is what we've Said already From the Children's Story onwards He became Man So that he Could Be crucified And died In the place Of those of us Who should Be crucified And died He came To be Precisely To be Crucified And rescue And save Sinners Like you And me And take us To heaven So that Leads us to Ask not Just what Kind of Man But what Kind of Condition Is he Now in What Physical

Suffering We Sometimes Forget that Friday Afternoon There was Three people Crucified We Sometimes Forget that The Real The Soul Of Christ's Suffering Was not his Physical Suffering It was his Spiritual Suffering The soul Of his Sufferings Were the Sufferings Of his Soul But even Physically He suffered More than The other Two thieves Because He was Crucified Having Been First Scourged Having Been First Scourged Normally You were Either Scourged Or Crucified Christ Was Both What Physical Suffering What Humiliation For the Son of God Abused Mocked

Slandered Desecrated What Humiliation And here's The amazing Thing about The condition He's in It's one He chose His condition Was not A situation That you Could say Due to Circumstances Beyond his Control No No No No As we'll Come to Note I'm not Sure We've reached It tonight Today Or Maybe God Willing Tonight His Condition Was One He chose To be In He went To meet The soldiers Remember We've often Read He escaped From those Who were Trying to Capture him Because His hour Had not Yet

Come He escaped Because His hour Had not Yet Come I think We noticed That The last Time We were Speaking Here But when His hour Had come Once The hour Had come He rose Up Remember He asked Three of His disciples To support And encourage Him in Prayer And they Fell asleep Three times He used to Waken them Up as it Were But when The time Came When the Moment Came Rise Let us Be going And he Went out To meet Them He didn't Have to be Dragged Hand and Foot He went To meet Them I He Remember He said And you See A sacrifice A genuine True sacrifice Is useless If it is Not voluntary If it's Not Willingly Given It's not

A sacrifice God Requires Sacrifices But we Should give Them Willingly They're having To be Dragged Out of Us We're having Got to See Oh well If that's What you Want There it Is It's not Acceptable Sacrifices To be Voluntary And he Gave His His back To the Smiters He gave His back To the Smiters His cheeks To them That plucked Off the Hair He walked Straight Into it Because as We've been Trying to Say That's Why he Came To suffer On our Behalf The condition Was one he Chose The condition Was Inevitable If sinners Are to be Saved If sinners

Are to be Saved If unholy People are To be In heaven There is Simply No Other Way But that Jesus The second Person of The cod Head Become Human And suffer And go Through All He's Suffering And going Through The death Of Christ You see Was not Straight Forward Because you Cannot separate Death from Sin And Christ Was Sinless Never committed To sin So how Can he die And this Is what Father Son And Holy Spirit Had to Work out In the Councils Of a Past Eternity Interesting

Word If we Believe in The Verbal And Plenary Inspiration Of scripture Which I Trust we All do Luke Number Nine Verse Thirty One The The Transfiguration The Transfiguration Yes You remember When Jesus Appeared With Moses And Elias And they were Speaking Together And it speaks That he Appeared In glory And speak Of his Disease Which he Should Accomplish His Death Had to Be Accomplished What do You do To die You don't Do anything It's done To you But the Death Of Christ A Sinless Holy Person Not Straightforward It had To be Accomplished And that's Moses And Elias Locked In Conversation

With Christ And the Transfiguration They couldn't Believe What they Were amazed At what was Going to Happen To the Son of God He was Betrayed He's in This position This condition Because he Was betrayed Now No Enemy Betrays An enemy Attacks The Significant Thing About A Betrayal Is It's A Friend Who Betrays That's The Awfulness That's The Ignomence That's The Evil Of Betrayal It's A Friend Who Betrays Christ Was Betrayed By One Of His Disciples Only A Friend Betrays An

Enemy Attacks There's The Angel An Angel Is Sent To Strengthen Him Now Tell Me How Does The Angel Strengthen Christ How Does He Do He Do He Does He How Can He He Cannot Lighten The Lord He Cannot Reduce The Pain Because He Has To Pay For It All And He Cried Out It's Finished All The Suffering Is Over So The Angel Can't Say Well Lighten I'll See What I Can Do Reducing The Pain No No No That Must Not Happen He Must Endure The Whole Lot He Can't Share The Burden He Can't Say Well I'll Take This Bit For You No No Can't

Do It He Can't Inject Divine Strength Into Him His Human Nature Has To Suffer It All He Can't The Angel Cannot Comfort Or Strengthen Them By Saying It Will Be All Right You Marriage Listen It Won't Be All Right It Will Not Be All Right It Will Be Terrible The Angel Can't Comfort Him With Lies How Does He Comfort Him How Does He Strengthen Him We're Not Told But Some Have Used Sanctified Well We Call it Sanctified Imagination And They've Been Suggested Maybe He Showed Them As It Were A

Photograph Of You For Whom He Died And Said That's Who You're Suffering All That For Don't You Love Them Don't You Love Her Don't You Love Him That He May Have Strengthened Them That Way By Showing Him The People He Was Suffering For That That Would Have Encouraged Him Because He Has Had And Has Everlasting Love A Love That Cannot Be Stopped Not Even By The Power The Horrors And Pain Of Crucifixion And Being Abandoned For Some Time By His Father Why

Did He Choose Them We're Back To That Because Of His Passionate Love For His People He Loved Them With An Everlasting Love And That Was Greater Than All The Agonies Of Calvary That's Love And You See If We Love Him It Is Because He First Loved Us Who Are So Unholy That's Love That's Everlasting Love He Also Chose It Because Of His Commitment To His Father's Covenant You See We Learned From Psalm From Chapter 17 The Father Gave Him A People On Agreement That He Would Suffer On

Calvary And He Was Committed To That So When The Time Came Because He Because He Loved His People With Never Lasting Love He Was Totally Committed To Keeping The Covenant He Made With His Father And I Can Add Also He Chosen He Chose To Proceed With Calvary Because Of His Utter Determination To Conquer Sin And Satan Never Ever Think Satan Had The Victory On Calvary He Did Not Christ Rose Again From The Dead Conqueror Of Death Conqueror Of Sin Conqueror Of Satan And Now The Important Question Thirdly

What Kind Of Beholding Matthew Chapter 27 Verse 36 Let Me Read It To You Says This Matthew 27 Verse 36 Says This And Sitting Down They Watched Him There Were They Beholding Christ Not In The Sense It Means When It Says Behold The Lamb Of God Which Takes Away The Son Of The World It's A Beholding That Saves These In Matthew 27 Verse 36 They Were Physically Looking At Jesus It's The Crowd It's The People That Said Away With Them Crucify

Them They Were Watching Them They Saw Him They Were Beholding In The Sense That They Saw Him Literally Eyeball To Eyeball As It Were But They Weren't Beholding Him In Faith Taking Him As Their Own Savior When We're To Behold The Man When We're To Behold The Lamb Of God That Takes Away The Sin We Are We Are To We Are To Choose Him As Our Savior We Are To Love Him We're To Follow Him We're To Thank Him Behold Him In That Way In That Sense The Older People Used To Use The Word Which We Don't Use Much Nowadays Appropriate Him That Is Make Use Of Him Take Him For Yourself

As Your Savior He Died That We Might Live Well Live Take Him For Yourself Behold Him In Love Behold Him As A Friend Behold Him As The One Who Came To Save Unworthy People Like You And Like Me It Isn't A Physical Behold People Say How Can We Look To Jesus Now When He's Not Around You Look In Faith You Look Believing As He's Suffering There What's He Doing He's Taking Away The Sin Of The World Dying In The Place Of People Who Have Sinned And Cannot Atone For Their Own Sin That's What He's Doing Behold Him In Love Behold Him Embracing Him Say I'll Have Him I'll Take Him I'll

Follow Him That's How To Behold Him For Salvation And Listen As We Close Whatever You Do Behold Him And Be For For For For For For For For For That's The Whole Purpose That's Why He's Doing It That's Why He Went To The Cross That You Could You Be For God If Threat You Have You Turn Hope Over For To Be For Know Don't Have A Trace of sin left on you as you behold him taking away the sin of the world when you behold him don't only be forgiven be free be emancipated be liberated don't have a worry in the world you have the one thing needful behold

Christ in faith for yourself taking away the sin of the world don't have a worry the one thing needful is yours if you have him if you love him if you follow him be a new person in Christ if any man be in Christ he's a new creation be that new creation in Christ by beholding the man Christ Jesus so last word whatever you do behold the man Christ Jesus he will change your destiny if you are an evil sinner you're heading for hell you're heading for hell but Christ will change that if you behold him you will not only change your destiny he will change your life on earth behold the man behold the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world may God the Holy Spirit make his word effectual to every one of us let's pray our

Father in heaven be pleased to take the things of Christ and make them ours here this day in this place show us his love show us his power show us his beauty draw us to him that we embrace him in saving faith hear us in mercy answer us in peace as we pray only in Christ's name and for Christ's sake Amen we'll conclude our service of worship by singing from Psalm 63 Psalm 63 and we sing verses marked 2 to 6 Psalm 63 in this altar verse 2 that I thy power may behold in brightness of thy face as I have seen thee heretofore within thy holy place down to verse 6 when I do thee upon my bed remember remember with delight and when on thee

I meditate in watches of the night Psalm 63 verses 2 to 6 the night season that I thy about may behold the brightness of thy face, as thy hearts keep thee here to form within thy holy places.

If there is thy love of mine, my earthly grace shall give, I am, I am.

Will lift my hand and bless thee while I live.

[61:12] In battle with Mario and without, my soul shall fear thee.

Then shall my mouth with joyful lips sing praise unto thee.

When I do thee upon my bed, remember with delight, and whereon the heat I meditate in water of the night.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now and forevermore.

Amen. Amen.