

No work too hard for Him  
In faith receive from Him  
Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place

© 1986 Thankyou Music

Call to worship/ Opening Prayer

Lord our God,  
It is by Your breath  
that we live.  
It is because of Your Spirit  
that we exist.  
Your kiss of life  
is our daily revival.  
You are the wind beneath  
our wings.

Taste and See...

Praise Song; I will enter His gates

I will enter His gates with thanksgiving in my heart  
I will enter His courts with praise  
I will say this is the day that the Lord has made  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad

**Chorus**

**He has made me glad, He has made me glad  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad  
He has made me glad, He has made me glad  
I will rejoice for He has made me glad**

CCLI Song # 1493, Leona Von Brethorst© 1976

**Be still for the presence for the Lord**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZugvUQ4m90U>

1. Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The Holy One is here  
Come bow before Him now  
With reverence and fear  
In Him no sin is found  
We stand on holy ground  
Be still for the presence of the Lord  
The Holy One is here
2. Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around  
He burns with holy fire  
With splendour He is crowned  
How awesome is the sight  
Our radiant King of light  
Be still for the glory of the Lord  
Is shining all around
3. Be still for the power of the Lord  
Is moving in this place  
He comes to cleanse and heal  
To minister His grace

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

O Lord, we come now before you in prayer in the peace and quietness of the morning, when the world is silent except for the singing of the birds; and in expectation of your abiding presence we pause, and you are there waiting to reassure us that you are in control. We wait, confident of your ability to defeat the powers of evil that are waiting to turn another day into times of stress and anxiety; when everything in the world seems so out of control. But you are there – and evil will be defeated within Your own time.

**Creative pause: In the morning, God is there in God's own world.**

O Lord, we come to you, amidst the bustle of daily life at the noon-time, and there is a disquiet in the air, as the media and the latest electronic gadgetry all scream their headlines about further difficult and strained international relationships; tension fills the airwaves about the inequities of vital resources and opportunities for people and nations; an anger at the ruthless exploitation of natural resources; and the manipulation of the world's finances and food supplies. Then as we pause we are reminded, You are still in control of Your world, and that we need to hand over our fears and anxieties to You, and to just trust in the way You react to evil.

**Creative pause: At the noon-time, God is active in God's world.**

O Lord, in the evening we come to You – tired and troubled by many things, and You are there ready to listen, to sooth our anxieties, to cool our anger, and to answer our prayers. And as we pause, we are reminded that we do trust in You, our God; that even in our anxiety, the security and joy-filled delight of being held closely in God's hands is still there for us; that we can let go all that has hassled us during the day; and go to our bed trusting in You, our infinitely wise and all-knowing God. We know we can rest quietly, assured that we can commit all our anxieties, our plans, our hopes and dreams into Your hands - just as we have committed all we have and all we are to You, our God – and that You will continue to be God despite all the plans of the wicked, because You are supreme – always and forever.

**Creative pause: In the evening, I confidently rest in God's care, in God's world.**

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to live, the way to behave, help us to want to be more like you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

#### **Bible**

#### **Reading**

**Ps 34:1-8** (Praise for Deliverance from Trouble Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away).

I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad. O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

I sought the Lord, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to Him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble. The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them. O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in Him.

### **Kids reflect on the verse, 'Taste and See that the Lord is good' (Ps 34: 8)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuO4uSggQ8Q>

#### **Brief Reflection – 'Taste and see...'**

The primary purpose of the psalm is to teach us about God. In verse 8, the psalm's author, David, invites readers to "taste and see that the Lord is good." What does it mean to taste and see that the Lord is good

To taste involves testing or sampling; to see involves understanding or perceiving. The phrase taste and see, then, means "try and experience." David urges God's people to discover the goodness of the Lord by personal trial and experience it for themselves. He doesn't want readers to merely take his word for it that the Lord is good; he wants them actively to experience and know for themselves the fact that God is good.

We often associate taste with pleasure and satisfaction. Bible commentator Matthew Henry elaborates on this idea: "Let God's goodness be rolled under the tongue as a sweet morsel." When David says, "Taste and see that the Lord is good," he is calling us to figuratively take a bite—to try for ourselves by our own experience—and find out exactly how satisfyingly good God is. The apostle Peter applies the same language in 1 Peter 2:3 when he says, "You have tasted that the Lord is good."

Tasting must happen before seeing; that is, our spiritual experiences bring us to spiritual enlightenment and understanding. David desires others to "taste and see." He wants them to experience what he has experienced so that they can know what he has come to know, the soul-sustaining goodness of the Lord.

Psalm 34 goes on to outline examples of God's incredible goodness to those who take refuge in Him: He takes care of their every need (verses 8–10); He provides for them with a good, long life (verses 11–15); He is with them through troubles and saves them from their enemies (verses 17–22). Those who taste and see that the Lord is good will know His provision.

Jesus' followers experience tastes of God's goodness and grace when we observe the beauty of His creation or recognize His blessings of provision, protection, and care. We taste and see His goodness when we contemplate His holiness and infinite righteousness. We delight in His goodness when we appreciate the cost of Christ's sacrifice for our salvation.

To taste and see that the Lord is good, we must trust God and seek Him as our sole source of protection and provision. The only way to genuinely taste and see that the Lord is good is to put the matter to the test, to try and experience His goodness for yourself.

#### **Offering/hymn; We lift our voices**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=esREllt0Bi0>

#### **Prayer for others**

*Healing God, in times of poor health, we are grateful for the health services in our country: for doctors, nurses, health practitioners, chaplains, administrators, support workers and carers, we thank you.*

*So often taken for granted, we recognise today the value to humanity of the medical and scientific research and advancements that have taken place through centuries, and the dedication of those who work to take care of others.*

*We thank you too for family and friends who volunteer time and love to give to others, especially when challenging times are encountered. As people, we have been given great gifts that allow us to befriend and take care of those we love, and those we hardly know but encounter on our life's journey. We thank you for making us such an asset of care to others.*

*Lord, today we pray for those in the world who lack the standard of health services that we are granted. There are many across our world for whom medicines and*

*appropriate medical care is more scarce than it should be. We think of those in the developing world where epidemics happen all too frequently and the available vaccinations and treatments to cope with such crises are limited.*

*But we think too of those who live in countries where health care and medicines are available, yet because of insurance-based health systems for some, but not all, access to the care they need is too often a significant problem.*

*Lord, today we ask that as we remain silent for a while, you receive the personal prayers of each one here, that you may hear the concerns that are real for each of us, and direct your care to those we mention before you. Lord, we thank you for listening and for caring. Amen.*

## **Closing Song: O Lord my God**

1. O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made  
I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

### **Chorus**

**Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art  
Then sings my soul my Saviour God to Thee  
How great Thou art how great Thou art**

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze
3. And when I think that God His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in  
That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin
4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home what joy shall fill my heart  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim my God how great Thou art

CLI Song # 14181, Stuart Wesley Keene Hine© Copyright 1949

## **Final blessings**

God, help us shake the dust off our feet,  
and go into the world with a spirit of healing  
love. Faith, belief and discipleship are to  
be lived out. May we, your followers  
in this generation, go to meet our  
world: with your blessing, with  
the example of Jesus ever  
before us, and the energy  
of the Spirit driving us. Amen

