

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 8th August 2021

Welcome and call to worship

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14)*

Songs: You're the Word of God the Father; Faithful One

You're the Word of God the Father,
from before the world began;
every star and every planet
has been fashioned by your hand.
All creation holds together
by the power of your voice:
let the skies declare your glory,
let the land and seas rejoice!

*You're the author of creation,
you're the Lord of every man;
and your cry of love rings out
across the lands.*

Yet you left the gaze of angels,
came to seek and save the lost
and exchanged the joy of heaven
for the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer you fed the hungry,
with a word you stilled the sea.
Yet how silently you suffered
that the guilty may go free.

With a shout you rose victorious,
wresting victory from the grave
and ascended into heaven
leading captives in your wake.
Now you stand before the Father
interceding for your own.
From each tribe and tongue and nation
you are leading sinners home.

Faithful One, so unchanging,
ageless One, you're my rock of peace.
Lord of all, I depend on you,
I call out to you again and again,
I call out to you again and again.

*You are my rock in times of trouble,
You lift me up when I fall down:
all through the storm
your love is the anchor
– my hope is in you alone.*

Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness

Father, we have sinned against you.
We are not worthy to be called your children.
We turn to you again.
Have mercy on us, bring us back to yourself
as those who once were dead but now have life
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Why was it necessary for Christ to humble himself even unto death?

Because of the justice and truth of God,
satisfaction for our sins could be made in no other way
than by the death of the Son of God.

How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

First, by his resurrection he has overcome death,
so that he could make us share in the righteousness
which he had obtained for us by his death.
Second, by his power we too are raised up to a new life.
Third, Christ's resurrection is to us a sure pledge of our glorious resurrection.

(from the Heidelberg Catechism)

Song: I cast my mind to Calvary

I cast my mind to Calvary

Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds His hands His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

2. His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

*O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God*

3. Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death where is your sting
The angels roar for Christ the King

O praise the Name...

4. He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

O praise the Name...

Congregational Bible reading: Psalm 56

Prayers of intercession

Song: Praise God my soul! (from Psalm 103)

Praise God, my soul! With all my heart

Let me exalt his holy name.

Forget not all his benefits;

His praise, my soul, in song proclaim.

The LORD forgives you all your sins,

And heals your sickness and distress;

Your life he rescues from the grave,

And crowns you in his tenderness.

2. He satisfies your deep desires

From his unending stores of good,

So that, just like the eagle's strength,

Your youthful vigour is renewed.

The LORD is known for righteous acts

And justice to downtrodden ones.

To Moses he made known his ways,

His mighty deeds to Israel's sons.

3. The LORD is merciful and kind,

To anger slow, and full of grace.

He will not constantly reprove,

Or in his anger hide his face.

He does not punish our misdeeds,

Or give our sins their just reward.

How great his love—as high as heaven—

Towards all those who fear the LORD!

4. As far as east is from the west,

So far his love has borne away

Our many sins and trespasses

And all the guilt that on us lay.

Just as a father loves his child,

So God loves those who fear his name.

For he remembers we are dust,

And well he knows our feeble frame.

5. Each human life is like the grass,

And like a meadow flower it grows.

Its place will never be recalled

Once over it the tempest blows.

But everlasting is God's love

For those who fear him, and their seed—

For those who keep his covenant,

And carefully his precepts heed.

6. God's kingly rule is over all;

In heaven he has set his throne.

O you his angels, praise the LORD,

Strong ones by whom his will is done.

O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,

His servants who perform his word.

Praise God, his works throughout his realm,

And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

Bible reading and sermon – 2 John 1:1-13

Truth and love

(1) I love you—verses 1-3

(2) I ask, dear lady—verses 4-7

- 1 John 1:3-4, "that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete"
- John 13:34, "a new commandment I give you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another"
- 1 John 3:16, "By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers"

(3) Watch Yourself—verses 7-11

- 1 John 2:15-19
- 1 John 4:2 "every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ **has come** in the flesh is from God "
- John 14:6 "I am the way the truth and life, no one comes to the Father except through me."

Song: Lord of the church

Lord of the church, we pray for our renewing:

Christ over all, our undivided aim.
Fire of the Spirit, burn for our enduring,
wind of the Spirit, fan the living flame!
We turn to Christ amid our fear and failing,
the will that lacks the courage to be free,
the weary labours, all but unavailing,
to bring us nearer what a church should be.

2. Lord of the church, we seek a Father's blessing
a true repentance and a faith restored,
a swift obedience and a new possessing,
filled with the Holy Spirit of the Lord!
We turn to Christ from all our restless striving
unnumbered voices with a single prayer:
the living water for our soul's reviving
in Christ to live and love and serve and care.

3. Lord of the church we long for our uniting,
true to one calling, by one vision stirred;
one cross proclaiming and one creed reciting,
one in the truth of Jesus and his word!
So lead us on, till toil and trouble ended
one church triumphant one new song shall sing.
to praise his glory, risen and ascended,
Christ over all, the everlasting King!

Final prayer and blessing

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