

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 28th June 2020

Before we join together: to help us prepare sing a children's song and a hymn

- (1) "Wide, wide, as the ocean" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QURo0UrQLy0>
- (2) "O Lord my God" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKGf06YM7rQ>

At 10.45am: Welcome

Scriptural call to worship, and prayer for God's presence and blessing

We listen to these words of the apostle Paul concerning Christ's return (1 Thessalonians 5:2,6)

"... you yourselves are aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night."

"So then, let us not sleep, as others do, and let us keep awake and be sober."

We read together:

Almighty God,
to whom our hearts are open,
our desires are known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the gracious power of Your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love You
and worthily magnify Your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness

Together:

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sin
For not being ready for the return of Jesus
Father, forgive us.
For failing you by what we do, think and say
Father, forgive us
For living as if this world is all there is
Father, forgive us.
Amen

Leader: prays in thanksgiving for Christ's death and resurrection, and asks for the Lord to help us know deeply the joy of forgiveness and to help us be ready for Christ's return.

Congregational Bible reading – Psalm 16

Our psalm reading today seeks the help of the LORD, and delights in the blessing and safety that belongs to those who take refuge in him.

Declaring our Christian faith together: the Apostles' Creed

This is an ancient and world-wide declaration of the Christian faith. We declare our commitment to this summary of "catholic" (or "universal") doctrine.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of intercession

Song: Prepare our hearts, O God - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gp9JxmouLE>

Prepare our hearts, O God
Help us to receive
Break the hard and stony ground
Help our unbelief
Plant Your Word down deep in us
Cause it to bear fruit
Open up our ears to hear
Lead us in Your truth

*Show us Christ, show us Christ
O God, reveal Your glory
Through the preaching of Your Word
Until every heart confesses
Christ is Lord*

Your Word is living light
Upon our darkened eyes
Guards us through temptations
Makes the simple wise
Your Word is food for famished ones
Freedom for the slave
Riches for the needy soul
Come speak to us today

*Show us Christ, show us Christ
O God, reveal Your glory
Through the preaching of Your Word
Until every heart confesses
Christ is Lord*

Where else can we go, Lord
Where else can we go?
You have the words of eternal life

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Bible reading and Sermon – Matthew 24:36-44

Hymn: O Great God of highest heaven – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOPbanJKWE8>

O great God of highest heaven
Occupy my lowly heart
Own it all and reign supreme
Conquer every rebel power
Let no vice or sin remain
That resists Your holy war
You have loved and purchased me
Make me Yours forevermore

2. I was blinded by my sin
Had no ears to hear Your voice
Did not know Your love within
Had no taste for heaven's joys
Then Your Spirit gave me life
Opened up Your Word to me
Through the gospel of Your Son
Gave me endless hope and peace

3. Help me now to live a life
That's dependent on Your grace
Keep my heart and guard my soul
From the evils that I face
You are worthy to be praised
With my every thought and deed
O great God of highest heaven
Glorify Your Name through me.

A prayer for God's glory – from Colossians 3:20-21

"Now to him who is able to do far more than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen."