

## **Lord's Day worship: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020**

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

"Wide, wide, as the ocean" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QURo0UrQLy0>

**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 (2 Peter 3:9-10):*

"The Lord is not slow to fulfil his promise as some count slowness, but is patient towards you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed."

*We read together (Psalm 139:23-24):*

"Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!  
And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"

**Song: O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxCl6duiHvQ>**

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer  
Greatest treasure of my longing soul  
My God, like You there is no other  
True delight is found in You alone  
Your grace, a well too deep to fathom  
Your love exceeds the heavens' reach  
Your truth, a fount of perfect wisdom  
My highest good and my unending need

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer  
Strong defender of my weary heart  
My sword to fight the cruel deceiver  
And my shield against his hateful darts  
My song when enemies surround me  
My hope when tides of sorrow rise  
My joy when trials are abounding  
Your faithfulness, my refuge in the night

O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer  
Gracious Saviour of my ruined life  
My guilt and cross laid on Your shoulders  
In my place You suffered bled and died  
You rose, the grave and death are conquered  
You broke my bonds of sin and shame  
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer  
May all my days bring glory to Your Name

**Declaring our Christian faith: the Westminster Shorter Catechism (question one)**

*Leader:*

What is the chief end of man?

*Together:*

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and enjoy him forever.

**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 17

*Our psalm reading today speaks of the righteousness that God's people can claim through Jesus, and prays for God's protection from the wicked, who will attack God's people with their words and their actions.*

## Prayers of intercession

## Bible reading and Sermon – Matthew 24:45 – 25:30

How to be ready for Jesus:

Parable 1:

The loving servant who cares for the Master's people

Parable 2:

The prepared virgins who stay ready for their bridegroom

Parable 3:

The eager servant who works for Jesus' kingdom

## Hymn: Immortal honours rest on Jesus' head – [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnEx\\_Cv-QB8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnEx_Cv-QB8)

Immortal honours rest on Jesus' head;  
My God, my portion, and my living bread;  
In Him I live, upon Him cast my care;  
He saves from death, destruction, and despair.

2. He is my refuge in each deep distress;  
The Lord my strength and glorious righteousness;  
Through floods and flames He leads me safely on,  
And daily makes His sovereign goodness known.

3. My every need He richly will supply;  
Nor will His mercy ever let me die;  
In Him there dwells a treasure all divine,  
And matchless grace has made that treasure mine.

4. O that my soul could love and praise Him more,  
His beauties trace, His majesty adore;  
Live near His heart, upon His bosom lean;  
Obey His voice, and all His will esteem.

## Closing scripture and prayer – from 2 Peter 3:13-14, 17b-18

"But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace... ..take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."