

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 21st March 2021

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

"I will wait for you" - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJUqY_6tqo

"Who tempted Adam and Eve to sin?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-yUmMzaNC8&list=PLM1WI55UUJ7SLHpKdF8NgKE5NU6x1h8wu&index=9>

Welcome and call to worship – John 10:14-15, Psalm 100:3

*"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep."*

*"Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture."*

Song: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the king of creation

Praise to the Lord,
the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear;
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.

2. Praise to the Lord,
above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side,
and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen;
all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?

3. Praise to the Lord,
who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew,
what the almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.

4. Praise to the Lord -
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the 'Amen!'
sound from his people again -
gladly with praise we adore him!

Summary of God's law - Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

And Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Confession of sins and assurance of forgiveness

Lord God, we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.

We are sorry and repent.

Have mercy on us according to your love.

Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.

Renew a right spirit within us and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Congregational Bible Reading – Psalm 23

Prayers of intercession

Declaring our faith: the Apostles' Creed

The Apostles Creed 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.

Song: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
Hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

2. Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through:
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer;
Be thou still my strength and shield;
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3. Lord, I trust Thy mighty power,
Wondrous are Thy works of old;
You delivered us from slavery,
Into which ourselves had sold:
You have conquered, you have conquered,
Sin, and Satan and the grave;
Sin, and Satan and the grave.

4. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

Bible reading and sermon: Genesis 48:1 - 49:28

The verdict: God is the faithful Shepherd who redeems from all evil.

The method: God's way, not yours.

Song: The Lord's my shepherd

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone.
And I will trust in You alone,
for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

2. He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy.
I feast on His pure delights.

And I will trust in You alone...

3. And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one.
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

And I will trust in You alone...

Final prayer and blessing