

Opening Verse

Psalm 32v11

¹¹ Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Hymn

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, 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 now and ever more, Feed me now and ever more.

2. Open Thou the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, 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. 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.

**I WAS APPOINTED
FROM ETERNITY,
FROM THE BEGINNING,
BEFORE THE WORLD
BEGAN. (2 COR. 1:11)**

Confession

Psalm 32v3-5

³ When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"--and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

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.

Assurance of our forgiveness

Psalm 32v6-7

⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him. ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song

It's a Light and a Hammer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eb5ztT9pJbw&t=74s>

Words of belief

Apostles' Creed

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.

*means universal

Bible Reading

Acts 3v1-10

¹ One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer--at three in the afternoon. ² Now a man crippled from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. ³ When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. ⁴ Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" ⁵ So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.

⁶ Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." ⁷ Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. ⁸ He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God. ⁹ When all the people saw him walking and praising God, ¹⁰ they recognised him as the same man who

used to sit begging at the temple gate called Beautiful, and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.

Sermon – Acts 3v1-10

- After following the story through, we see that
- The power rests in Jesus and not in people
- Jesus cares for brokenness
- Jesus can give far more than we ask – the healing is more than the man hoped for and THAT is a sign of something EVEN GREATER – salvation 4v12.

Prayers

This morning's prayer from The Barnabas Fund

We praise you, heavenly Father, for the courage and steadfastness of Christians in North Korea, standing firm in the faith despite the severe punishment it can bring on them and their loved ones if the authorities discover that they follow your Son. Give them grace day by day, how by hour, especially those who are right now in harsh labour camps, starved and tortured. We pray also for those who persecute them, that you will soften their hearts, cause them to question what motivates the endurance of those they are so cruelly ill-treating, and let them hear your voice calling them. We ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

A prayer for those in isolation, particularly thinking of our local care homes

Loving Lord Jesus, who calmed the storm and guided your disciples to safe land, hear our prayers for those who are suffering in the silence of isolation at this time. To the needy, grant relief, to the fearful, reassurance and to the desperate, the hope of release that only you can give. Amen

Covid-19

Heavenly Father, our ever-present help in trouble, our fortress and our God: calm the anxious fears of all who turn to you; give strength and healing to those who are sick, and courage and skill to those who care for them; grant wisdom and clarity to those in authority; and humble us all to call upon you that we may be saved not only in this life, but also for that which is to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Prayer for the Day

Lord God, the unfailing helper and guide of those whom you bring up in your unmovable fear and love, keep us, we pray, under the protection of your good providence and give us a continual reverence and love for your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Hymn

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run,
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head.

His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

3. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

Blessing

Psalm 20v1-2

May the LORD answer you when you are in distress; may the name of the God of Jacob protect you. May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.