



Morning Service Sunday 5 July 2020



Opening Verse

John 6v35

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Hymn (Psalm 149) (Tune: O Worship the King)

Sing praise to the LORD; come, sing a new song. Amid all his saints his praises prolong.
Let Israel be glad in their Maker and sing; let all Zion's people rejoice in their King.

2. With timbrel and harp and joyful acclaim, with dancing and song give praise to his name.
For God in his people his pleasure will seek, with robes of salvation adorning the meek.

3. In glory exult, you saints of the LORD; with songs in the night high praises accord.
Go forth in his service, be strong in his might to conquer all evil and stand for the right.

4. For this is God's word: his saints shall not fail, but over the earth their power shall prevail.
All kingdoms and nations shall yield to their sword thus God shows his glory. Sing praise to the LORD!

Confession

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

John 6v40

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

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.**

Psalm 46

¹ *God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.*

² *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,*

³ *though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.*

⁴ *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.*

⁵ *God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.*

⁶ *Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.*

⁷ *The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

⁸ *Come and see the works of the LORD, the desolations he has brought on the earth.*

⁹ *He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shields with fire.*

¹⁰ *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

¹¹ *The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

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*

¹ The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. ² They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. ³ They seized Peter and John, and because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day. ⁴ But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand.

⁵ The next day the rulers, elders and teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. ⁶ Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and the other men of the high priest's family. ⁷ They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

⁸ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! ⁹ If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, ¹⁰ then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ He is

"the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone."

¹² Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

¹³ When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realised that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. ¹⁴ But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say. ¹⁵ So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together. ¹⁶ "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everybody living in Jerusalem knows they have done an outstanding miracle, and we cannot deny it. ¹⁷ But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn these men to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

¹⁸ Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. ¹⁹ But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. ²⁰ For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

²¹ After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. ²² For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

Sermon – Acts 4v1-22

- The Name of Jesus brings opposition
- The Name of Jesus brings confidence
- The Name of Jesus brings salvation

Prayers

This morning's prayer from The Barnabas Fund

O God of hope, please fill us with joy and peace as we trust in you. In a world of uncertainty and anxiety, when many are mourning for loved ones, when many had lost their means of livelihood, when old familiar ways of living may be gone forever, where the "new normal" is as yet unknown, and where persecution of your followers looks set to increase, please make us people who overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and saviour. (Romans 15v13)

A prayer for Hong Kong

As China increasingly imposes new laws and sanctions in Hong Kong, we pray for safety for Hong Kong's residents. Please keep the Christian churches and help them to trust in you. We pray for effective and progressive dialogue between the governments and we pray for peace, reconciliation and compassion for all in Hong Kong and wisdom for those in positions of power and decision.

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

Almighty God, the protector of all who believe in you and without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may pass through the things of this age in such a way that we do not finally lose the things of the age to come. Grant this, heavenly Father, for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake. 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

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father and I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Be Thou my battle Shield, Sword for the fight; Be Thou my Dignity, Thou my Delight;
Thou my soul's Shelter and Thou my high Tower: Raise Thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

4. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only the first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

5. High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heav'n's joys, O bright Heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

Blessing

Philippians 1v9-11

And this is my (our) prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ,¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ--to the glory and praise of God.