



Morning Service Sunday 12 July 2020



Opening Verse

Isaiah 2v3

³ Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

Hymn

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, Kept the folded grave clothes where Thy body lay.
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son, Endless is the victory, Thou o'er death hast won.

2. Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing; For her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son...

3. No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life; Life is naught without Thee; aid us
in our strife;
Make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love: Bring us safe through
Jordan to Thy home above.
Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son...

**NOW TO EACH ONE THE
MANIFESTATION OF THE
SPIRIT IS GIVEN FOR THE
COMMON GOOD.**

(1 CORINTHIANS 12:7)

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

Isaiah 1v18

"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

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 24

¹ The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

² for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.

³ Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?

⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Saviour.

⁶ Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob.

⁷ Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

⁸ Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.

⁹ Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

¹⁰ Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty--he is the King of glory.

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 4v23-37

²³ On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. ²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. "Sovereign Lord," they said, "you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

"Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?²⁶ The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One."

²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No-one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. ³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. ³⁴ There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵ and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

³⁶ Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷ sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.

Sermon – Acts 4v23-37

- The disciples praise because of the sovereign creator
- The disciples are confident because of the powerful revealer
- The disciples are different because of the gracious God

Prayers

This morning's prayer from The Barnabas Fund

O Lord, who commanded Joshua to be strong and courageous, make us brave and bold to face a post-Covid future in which so much that is familiar and normal has changed, perhaps forever. We praise you for your mighty resurrection power that raised Jesus from the dead, and we ask for you to empower us and our persecuted brothers and sisters to face whatever is to come. May we glorify you by our lives in the post-Covid world and reflect the character of your son Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. (Joshua 1v6)

A prayer for Schools

As schools begin to end for the Summer, we pray for pupils – that those changing or ending schools, that they will end well and be prepared for their next stage. We pray for those who have found home-school hard, that they will rest and then return to school well. We pray for teachers as they rest and prepare for the new term.

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, we pray that you may so govern the course of this world that it may be peaceably ordered and that your church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness, 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

**Before the throne of God above, I have a strong, a perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love, Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart;**

I know that while in heaven He stands No tongue can bid me thence depart, No tongue can bid me thence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair, And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died, My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me, To look on Him and pardon me.

3. Behold Him there! The risen Lamb, My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable I AM, The King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die, My soul is purchased with His blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ, my Saviour and my God, With Christ my Saviour and my God.

Blessing

Acts 20v32

Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.