



Morning Service
Sunday 23 August 2020



Responses and Prayer of Praise

2 Samuel 22v31-32

³¹As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. ³²For who is God besides the LORD? And who is the Rock except our God?

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord!**

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...

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

Lamentations 3v22-23

²²Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Words of Thanks and Praise

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Words of belief (*please stand*)

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 8v1-25

¹On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria

²Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison.

⁴Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. ⁶When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. ⁷With shrieks, evil spirits came out of many, and many paralytics and cripples were healed. ⁸So there was great joy in that city.

⁹Now for some time a man named Simon had practised sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great,¹⁰

and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, "This man is the divine power known as the Great Power."¹¹ They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic.¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised, both men and women.¹³ Simon himself believed and was baptised. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

¹⁴ When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.¹⁵ When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit,¹⁶ because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus.¹⁷ Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

¹⁸ When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money¹⁹ and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

²⁰ Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!²¹ You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.²² Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.²³ For I see that you are full of bitterness and captive to sin."

²⁴ Then Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me so that nothing you have said may happen to me."

²⁵ When they had testified and proclaimed the word of the Lord, Peter and John returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many Samaritan villages.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon – Acts 8v1-25

- The Samaritans, had the 1st 5 books of the Bible and waited for the restorer, but didn't come to god's place or trust his plan.
- When Philip preached Jesus to them they believed, but didn't receive the Holy Spirit. Why?
- They needed the Apostles from Jerusalem. I symbol to them that they needed to recognize that God does do things in HIS way.
- God worked through real people, real places and made and kept a real promise.

Prayers

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

from Colossians 1v9-11

May God fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.¹⁰ And may you live a life worthy of the Lord and pleasing him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might, with great endurance, patience and joy.