



# Sunday Service 14 February 2021



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## GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

### Responses and Prayer of Praise

*1 John 4v7-9*

*<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: he sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.*

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

### Hymn

**Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down!**

Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure unbounded love Thou art;

Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into every troubled breast!

Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find Thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy grace receive;

Suddenly return, and never, Never more Thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,

Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

4. Finish then Thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;

Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee!

Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place;

Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love and praise.

## GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS OUR SINS

### 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.**

**God's Promise of Forgiveness**

*1 John 4v10*

*This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

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** (stand)

*Psalm 136v1-9*

*<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>2</sup>Give thanks to the God of gods. **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>3</sup>Give thanks to the Lord of lords: **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>4</sup>to him who alone does great wonders, **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>5</sup>who by his understanding made the heavens, **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>6</sup>who spread out the earth upon the waters, **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>7</sup>who made the great lights – **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>8</sup>the sun to govern the day, **His love endures for ever.***

*<sup>9</sup>the moon and stars to govern the night; **His love endures for ever.***

**GOD CALLS US TO SERVE HIM**

**Bible Reading**

*Acts 13v13-43*

*<sup>13</sup>From Paphos, Paul and his companions sailed to Perga in Pamphylia, where John left them to return to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>From Perga they went on to Pisidian Antioch. On the Sabbath they entered the synagogue and sat down. <sup>15</sup>After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the leaders of the synagogue sent word to them, saying, 'Brothers, if you have a word of exhortation for the people, please speak.'*

*<sup>16</sup>Standing up, Paul motioned with his hand and said: 'Fellow Israelites and you Gentiles who worship God, listen to me! <sup>17</sup>The God of the people of Israel chose our ancestors; he made the people prosper during their stay in Egypt; with mighty power he led them out of that country; <sup>18</sup>for about forty years he endured their conduct in the wilderness; <sup>19</sup>and he overthrew seven nations in Canaan, giving their land to his people as their inheritance. <sup>20</sup>All this took about 450 years.*

*'After this, God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. <sup>21</sup>Then the people asked for a king, and he gave them Saul son of Kish, of the tribe of Benjamin, who ruled for forty years. <sup>22</sup>After removing Saul, he made David their king. God testified concerning him: "I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do."*

*<sup>23</sup>'From this man's descendants God has brought to Israel the Saviour Jesus, as he promised. <sup>24</sup>Before the coming of Jesus, John preached repentance and baptism to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup>As John was completing his work, he said:*

*“Who do you suppose I am? I am not the one you are looking for. But there is one coming after me whose sandals I am not worthy to untie.”*

*26‘Fellow children of Abraham and you God-fearing Gentiles, it is to us that this message of salvation has been sent. 27The people of Jerusalem and their rulers did not recognise Jesus, yet in condemning him they fulfilled the words of the prophets that are read every Sabbath. 28Though they found no proper ground for a death sentence, they asked Pilate to have him executed. 29When they had carried out all that was written about him, they took him down from the cross and laid him in a tomb. 30But God raised him from the dead, 31and for many days he was seen by those who had travelled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his witnesses to our people.*

*32‘We tell you the good news: what God promised our ancestors 33he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:*

*“You are my son; today I have become your father.”*

*34God raised him from the dead so that he will never be subject to decay. As God has said,*

*“I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.”*

*35So it is also stated elsewhere:*

*“You will not let your holy one see decay.”*

*36‘Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed. 37But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.*

*38‘Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. 39Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses. 40Take care that what the prophets have said does not happen to you:*

*41“Look, you scoffers, wonder and perish, for I am going to do something in your days that you would never believe, even if someone told you.” ’*

*42As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath. 43When the congregation was dismissed, many of the Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who talked with them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.*

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

**Sermon**

**Words of belief (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*

### **Collect, Prayers of intercession and Lord's Prayer**

*Epiphany 6*

O God, whose blessed Son was revealed so that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life, grant that, we, who have this hope, may purify ourselves as he is pure so that, when he shall appear in power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom, where he lives and reigns with you, the Father, and with you, the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**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, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

### **GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD**

#### **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**

1 Thessalonians 5v23-24

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**