



Sunday Service

28 February 2021



GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Responses and Prayer of Praise

Psalm 72v18-19

*Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvellous deeds.
Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his
glory.*

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

Hymn

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to his feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like you his praise should sing?
Praise him, Praise him! praise the everlasting King.

2. Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress;
praise him, still the same as ever, slow to blame and swift to bless;
Praise him, Praise him! glorious in his faithfulness.

3. Father-like, he tends and spares us, All our hopes and fears he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him, Praise him! widely as his mercy flows.

4. Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space.
Praise him, Praise him! praise with us the God of grace.

GOD CALLS US TO CONFESS OUR SINS

Confession

The Lent Collect, used as our Confession

**Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and
forgive the sins of all who are penitent: make in us new and contrite hearts
so that, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, we may
receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

God's Promise of Forgiveness

Psalm 73v25-26

*Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothin I desire besides you?
My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my
portion for ever.*

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 146

Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord, my soul.

2 I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

3 Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save.

***4 When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;
on that very day their plans come to nothing.***

***5 Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God.***

***6 He is the Maker of heaven and earth,
the sea, and everything in them— he remains faithful forever.***

***7 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets prisoners free,***

***8 the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed
down, the Lord loves the righteous.***

***9 The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the
widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.***

***10 The Lord reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord.***

GOD CALLS US TO SERVE HIM

Bible Reading

Acts 15v1-21

Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: “Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved.”²This brought Paul and Barnabas into sharp dispute and debate with them. So Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and elders about this question.³ The church sent them on their way, and as they traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, they told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the believers very glad.⁴ When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them.

5 Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, “The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses.”

6 The apostles and elders met to consider this question.⁷ After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them: “Brothers, you know that some

time ago God made a choice among you that the Gentiles might hear from my lips the message of the gospel and believe. ⁸ God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. ⁹ He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. ¹⁰ Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? ¹¹ No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”

¹² The whole assembly became silent as they listened to Barnabas and Paul telling about the signs and wonders God had done among the Gentiles through them. ¹³ When they finished, James spoke up. “Brothers,” he said, “listen to me. ¹⁴ Simon has described to us how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. ¹⁵ The words of the prophets are in agreement with this, as it is written:

¹⁶ “After this I will return and rebuild David’s fallen tent.

Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it,

¹⁷ that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, even all the Gentiles who bear my name,

says the Lord, who does these things’— ¹⁸ things known from long ago.

¹⁹ “It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. ²⁰ Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. ²¹ For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath.”

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

Lent 2

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of our own to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls so that we may be defended from all ills that may befall the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

To God be the Glory! Great things he has done;

so loved he the world that he gave us his Son
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

and give him the glory; great things he has done.

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!

To every believer the promise of God:
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,

and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
but purer and higher and greater will be
our joy and our wonder, when Jesus we see!

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.

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