

HWEK Morning Service 3 May 2020

Call to worship Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous; it is fitting for the upright to praise him. (Ps. 33:1 NIV) The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea into jars; he puts the deep into storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. (Ps. 33:5-8 NIV)

Hymn 187 O God beyond all praising
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3R7ynobWQU>

Prayer of Invocation

Our Father you are in heaven, high and lifted up, higher than our highest thoughts. Holy is your name, beside you there is no other! You are God and you alone! Receive us into your kingdom, the coming kingdom, the kingdom of your anointed Son Jesus, whose name we bear. Receive us, for we come to you in his name, we pray in him and with him. For yours is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory. Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God, now and forever. Amen

Call to Confession

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. (Ps. 66:16 NIV) If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; 19 but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer. 20 Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me! (Ps. 66:18-20 NIV)

In the strength of this assurance let us confess our sins to God

Confession of sin

Holy God, Lord most gracious! Rebuke us not in your anger, nor chasten us in your wrath! Holy you are, and we cannot stand in your presence. Yet you have called us to come to you. We feel unworthy for we have failed you again and again. We feel like running away, yet you keep calling us. Have mercy on us, O God and forgive our many sins for Christ the Saviour's sake in whose name we pray. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (Jn. 3:16-17 NIV)

Catechism Gerald

Hymn 426 How deep the Father's love for us

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzQj7XvKFmA>

Announcements

Hymns on Sunday 6:30pm by Gerald on Skype

Prayer Meeting on Thursday 7.30pm on Skype

Prayer for illumination

Blessed you are, Lord, Great God! Blessed you are, eternal God in times past and yet today! You have spoken in the past and your people have been guided through all kinds of wildernesses and supported in all kinds of exiles and tribulations. Speak to us today in the midst of our own peculiar confusions. Speak to us through your Word and give us a sense of order and direction. Speak to us through your gospel. Transform us by your grace. Renew us in hope through your Word and by your Holy Spirit for we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen

Bible Reading

Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear-- not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple "Yes" or "No." Otherwise you will be condemned. 13 Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. 17 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. 18 Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. (Jas. 5:12-18 NIV)

Intercessory Prayer

O gracious Lord God, you have loved us, and have chosen us to be a royal priesthood, to offer to you spiritual sacrifices. We would serve you in a ministry of prayer and intercession. O Gracious Lord God, you have called us out of darkness into your marvellous light, the rock of our salvation. You are faithful, sure and steadfast. We pray for the Church, for this Church, founded on the rock of Christ. Grant that this congregation may be firmly established in Christ, built up in Christ, performing the work of Christ, and filled with the love of Christ. Gracious Lord God, you have called us to be a royal priesthood and a holy nation. We pray for the leaders of the church, for the minister of the various churches in Hounslow.

O gracious Lord God you have chosen us to be a holy nation. God's own people, a nation called out from the nations, a people called out from all peoples. We pray for all peoples and nations. We pray for the nation of Iran and for the church. We thank you that so many people are turning to Christ. We pray for protection of your people and that the government will change their attitude and permit Christians to worship freely. We pray for those who have converted to Christ that their lives will be protected. We pray for our Asylum seekers in this church many of whom have been granted leave to remain. They have come to seek refuge here in this country, yet at this time there is still potential threat to life because of the Coronavirus. Lord deliver Your people and keep them from all harm, may their confidence be in You.

O Gracious Lord God, you have chosen us to be a holy nation. We bless you for the freedom that we enjoy in the United Kingdom, for the institutions that educate us, provide safe food and commodities and for a health service that looks after us when we are unwell. We pray for those who work in NHS, as they face physical danger and also the emotional strain of witnessing so many patients die. We thank you for the police and the armed forces, for MI5 and MI6 that work tirelessly to keep our country safe from terrorism and threat. We thank you for a democratic government. We thank you for the work and planning that the government are undertaking to serve the people of this nation to control the impact of the virus. We pray for the scientists who are working to find cure, a vaccine and tests. Help us to support those in authority in prayer so that they can function and rule.

We pray for our nation that as a people we might rediscover the beauty of holiness and the wisdom of your law.

We pray that the laws of our land will be in keeping with the moral law of your Word. That we might discover the bright light of purity, in the radiance of holiness and the true light of freedom.

O gracious Lord God, you have called all of us to holiness. We thank you for the opportunity to work in this country. We pray that we might fulfil our vocation, that we might accomplish the work that you have given us to do. We pray for those who have no work, for those who work but have little return, for those who have menial work, dangerous work or burdensome work. We pray for those who are searching for new work. Lord complete your work in us.

To you be all glory, Gracious Lord God, for we rejoice in the service you have called us to perform. In Christ our great high priest we pray. Amen

Hymn What a friend we have in Jesus

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84ilGNV0v28>

Sermon

Hymn 258 Great is thy faithfulness

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTKlqmdfHSk>

Benediction

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forevermore. Amen