

HVEC Morning Service 7 June 2020

Call to worship I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. ²I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. (Ps. 9:1-2 NIV)

Hymn 151 Glory be to God the Father

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikH8DfDADxc>

Prayer of Invocation

In you, eternal Father, and through your Son, Jesus Christ, we find the beginning and end of all things. In Christ we find hope, forgiveness, and courage for new beginnings. Let then, O God, the fresh winds of your Spirit sweep into our lives this day, so that this act of worship and the week to follow may become a time of renewal and rededication to your service. Help us to have a sense of spiritual vitality in our daily living. May the joy of salvation be a living reality in our lives. Draw us closer to our Saviour through this time of worship. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight our Lord and our God, in Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

The psalmist models a transparent faith with these words:
Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead in the way everlasting. We express our longing for God's leading by our own transparent confession.

Confession of sin

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted.⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isa. 53:4-6 NIV)

Catechism Gerald at 11am on Sunday morning

Hymn 122 How pleased and blessed was I

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

Announcements Bible study Thursday evening 7:30pm via Skype

Prayer for illumination

Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and hear what you will speak, for you speak peace to your people through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Bible Reading

We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. 4 Whoever says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did. 7 Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. 8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining. 9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. 10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. 11 But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them. (1 Jn. 2:3-11 NIV)

Intercessory Prayer

We praise and thank you, O Lord, that you feed us with your Word. We are grateful for your gifts and mindful of the communion of your saints, we offer to you our prayers for all people.

God of compassion, we remember before you the poor and the afflicted, the sick and the dying, prisoners and all who are lonely, the victims of war, injustice, and inhumanity, and all others who suffer from whatever their sufferings may be called. We pray for those who mourn because they have lost loved ones through the current virus that is plaguing the world at this time. We also remember those who feel outraged by the deaths that take place by the actions of the police. We pray that those who protest that they will do this peacefully and in a way that does not put at risk their health or the health of others because of not keeping a safe distance from each other.

We pray for our politicians that you will give them wisdom so that they will know what decisions to make that will save lives and save livelihoods. We pray for those who face the possibility of redundancy. Lord we pray that they will find new employment.

We pray for those who suffer the terror of war alongside the uncertainty and threat that the pandemic brings. Move the hearts of those involved in of the United Nations that they will put people before politics and bring an end to killing

O Lord of providence holding the destiny of the nations in your hand, we pray for our country. Inspire the hearts and minds of our leaders that they, together with all our nation, may first seek your kingdom and righteousness so that order, liberty, and peace may dwell with your people.

O God the Creator, we pray for all nations and peoples. Take away the mistrust and lack of understanding that divide nations. We pray for the many needy people who will suffer hardship because of the reduced activity with many of the international aid agencies.

O Saviour God, look upon your church in its struggle upon the earth. Have mercy on its weakness, bring to an end its unhappy divisions, and scatter its fears. Look also upon the ministry of your church. Increase its courage, strengthen its faith, and inspire its witness to all people. Help us in this church to know blessing. Bless us and give us wisdom, love and gentleness as I as minister and the congregation get to know each other. Help us Lord to gather the food of your word to be able to feed your people that they might be nourished and able to flourish in their walk with you.

Author of grace and God of love, send your Holy Spirit's blessing to your children. Remember those who struggle with the current lock down. Remember those who struggle with ill health whether that be in body or in mind Keep our hearts and thoughts in Jesus Christ, because it is in His name we pray. Amen.

Hymn O love that will not let me go

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nt69WDtYNLo&list=RDoJuRdcElsxM&index=2>

Sermon

Hymn 705 Rock of Ages cleft for me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XnZRRt5EMr0>

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 all now and forevermore. Amen