

HWEC Morning Service 5 July 2020

Call to worship LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens. 2 Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger. 3 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? 5 You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. 6 You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: 7 all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild, 8 the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas. 9 LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! (Ps. 8:1-9 NIV)

Hymn All people that on earth do dwell

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-1dQ8t03mE>

Prayer of Invocation

O Lord our Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit you have made us for yourself and our hearts our restless until we find our rest in you. We thank you thank you that we have found that rest in Jesus Christ. We can come before you into your presence because we experience the peace of God in our hearts. We stand before you arrayed in the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Lord we thank you for your grace and mercy towards us. Your unmerited favour was shown to us when we were far away from you. We had no desire for you, but you sought us, we had nothing to offer but you bought us with the precious blood of Christ. You have translated us from the Kingdom of darkness in the kingdom of your dear Son. Lord we praise you and we rejoice in the God of our salvation.

As you have called us to worship this morning so out of the abundance of the riches of heaven enable us by your Holy Spirit to taste and see that the Lord is good. Enable us by your Holy Spirit, move our hearts to rejoice, touch our lips that we might sing you praise because you have done marvellous things for us and have made us glad. Come and inhabit the praises of your people for Christ the Saviour's sake, in whose name we pray. Amen

Call to Confession

Our Lord Jesus said:

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

As God has instructed us in these great commandments, and because we have not lived in full obedience, let us now confess our sins to God, trusting Christ as our Saviour and Lord. Let us bow again as I lead the congregation in confession of sins

Confession of sin

Almighty and merciful God forgive us for cold hearts that refuse to be warmed by the message of the Gospel. Forgive us for closed ears that refuse to listen to the call to return to you. Forgive us for minds that we have not trained to notice, your encouragement, your rebuke, your instruction and your call for us to return to you. Forgive us for defining ourselves by our circumstances rather than embracing who you have made us in Christ. Forgive us for not facing the reality of our barren hearts. Lord in mercy forgive what we have allowed ourselves to become and in mercy receive us back under the shadow of your wing and let your face be turned toward us again and bless our days, for Christ the Saviour’s sake. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.²
Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. (Ps. 32:1-2 NIV)

Catechism Gerald at 11am via Skype

Hymn 161 Now than we all our God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sR6Kajdtt3M>

Announcements

The elders and deacon are meeting on Wednesday evening at 7:30pm to discuss the opening of the church building for public worship. The trustees and leaders have a legal obligation to complete a risk assessment to demonstrate how we comply with government advice. Please pray that God will give us wisdom to complete this in a Christ honouring way.

Bible Study via Skype at 7:30pm Thursday

Prayer for illumination

Heavenly Father, thank You for the beautiful reminder in the book of Ruth, that no one is outside Your offer of salvation, and that no matter how far we have strayed away from Your loving arms, You are ready and willing to bring us back into fellowship with Yourself. We praise and thank You that no one is beyond redemption and no matter how far we have strayed You are ready and willing to open Your arms of love to the prodigal. Help us to embrace all that you say to us through this book of Ruth. Thank You for Your goodness and grace and pray that many who have wandered far from You would find their hope in Jesus – in Whose name we pray, Amen.

Bible Reading Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. 19 They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us. 20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and all of you know the truth. 21 I do not write to you because you do not know the truth, but because you do know it and because no lie comes from the truth. 22 Who is the liar? It is whoever denies that Jesus is the Christ. Such a person is the antichrist-- denying the Father and the Son. 23 No one who denies the Son has the Father; whoever acknowledges the Son has the Father also. 24 As for you, see that what you have heard from the beginning remains in you. If it does, you also will remain in the Son and in the Father. 25 And this is what he promised us-- eternal life. 26 I am writing these things to you about those who are trying to lead you astray. 27 As for you, the anointing you received from him remains in you, and you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things and as that anointing is real, not counterfeit-- just as it has taught you, remain in him. 28 And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. 29 If you know that he is righteous, you know that everyone who does what is right has been born of him. (1 Jn. 2:18-29 NIV)

Intercessory Prayer

O Lord our God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come before you in the name of Jesus Christ, we present ourselves in his name, we come prepared by his righteousness and we thank you that you promise that your ear is attentive to the prayer of the righteous. Lord if we were to depend on our own righteousness to stand before the holiness of your presence would destroy us because you are of purer eyes than to look upon iniquity. But with the confidence of coming in union with Christ we come before your throne of grace that we might find help in our time of need.

The greatest need of the hour is that we might love you with all our heart, mind and strength, that we might honour you with our lives and exalt you with our worship. Secondly our need is that we might love each other, that recognising that each of us never have and never will deserve the grace and mercy we have received, we pray that we will think well of each other. We're all in the love of Christ together Lord so help us to have the same attitude, one of humbly accepting that we enjoy a place in your love that we did not and could not earn. Help us to have sympathy with one another, Lord we all sin throughout each day, we are all a work in progress with the need for further sanctification. We all get tired and stressed, we all worry and become anxious. Lord help us to be patient with one another. You have gifted us all in different ways and there is so much we can learn from one another. Lord the longer we spend with one another the more we recognise each other's weaknesses, help us therefore to show compassion. We thank you that our failure through this week, our failure yesterday, our failure today does not see us abandoned by you, Lord therefore help us not to abandon each other, but to humbly accept that each of us have received the same grace of God otherwise we would be lost without God without hope in the world. Lord even though we are slow to learn we thank you that your love constantly reaches out to us.

Lord we live at a time of great anger where it is hard to construct any sentence that will not offend someone. Lord help us not to adopt that angry attitude, help us to be sensitive in the right way, not over sensitive, not always taking offense. But Lord help us that we will not give offense. When evil is done against us help us not to resort to evil to get even or to pay back. But Lord give us more grace so that we can return blessing for evil. Lord this needs to begin in this house with us and to move out from this place into our neighbourhood.

Lord many of your people have experienced anger, hatred and persecution from their fellow countrymen. Lord we pray for those you have saved and helped escape from persecution, Lord may they remain in the love of Christ.

We pray for those who are attending hospital and are undergoing test [add their names to the prayer] grant to the doctors understanding that they may diagnose correctly and find a cure that full healing might be given to those who are suffering.

Watch over us in our many needs, help us to trust you and depend upon you in whatever circumstance we are found today. For Christ the Saviour's sake. Amen

Hymn All hail the power of Jesus' name

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WVSyGBBfi8>

Sermon

Hymn Holy Spirit, living breath of God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nbMfLQd2P4>

Benediction

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