

## HWEC Morning Service 2 August 2020

**Call to worship** Your love, LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. 6 Your righteousness is like the highest mountains, your justice like the great deep. You, LORD, preserve both people and animals. 7 How priceless is your unfailing love, O God! People take refuge in the shadow of your wings. 8 They feast on the abundance of your house; you give them drink from your river of delights. 9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light. 10 Continue your love to those who know you, your righteousness to the upright in heart. (Ps. 36:5-10 NIV)

**Hymn** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roxlm\\_gCb7c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roxlm_gCb7c)

### Prayer of Invocation

O Lord, we magnify you, we rejoice in you, O God our Saviour! You have regarded the low estate of your people, the Church in every age! You have done great things for us, and holy is your name, O mighty God! Remember your mercy to us in the name of Jesus Christ, for in Him we plead the new and eternal covenant; for in him the promises made to Abraham have been fulfilled. Remember your covenant once again, as you have from generation to generation. For yours is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, Father, ever blest, Son, ever praised, Holy Spirit, ever adored, One God now and always. Amen

### Call to Confession

"Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. (Isa. 1:18 NIV)

Responding to this command let us confess our sins to God

### Confession of sin

For you, O God, we long. For you our souls Thirst, O ever living God. You are our life and the source of all life. Oh, that we might see your face and live. Yet our sins which our many have robbed us of joy, of the sense of your presence. Lord forgive this terrible thing that we are and the terrible things we have thought said and done.

Our souls are disturbed, we doubt, we become discouraged, we run from your word, and yet you pursue us and cause us to have hope in you.

We remember those times when we sensed your presence. We remember the joy of being in your sanctuary. Our hope is in you, that again we might praise you. O God strengthen our hope, feed us on your word, and increase our faith and restore to us the joy of salvation for Christ the Saviour's sake. Amen

### Assurance of Pardon

through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. (Acts 13:38 NIV) In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace (Eph. 1:7 NIV)

**Catechism** Gerald 11am via Skype

**Hymn** 812 O for a heart to praise my God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-aoE20z6a90>

**Announcements** Prayer Meeting Thursday 7.30pm via Skype

### Prayer for illumination

Blessed you are, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of glory. Blessed you are, eternal God, source of wisdom and knowledge. Give us the spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Christ. Enlighten the eyes of our hearts that we may know what is the hope to which we have been called. Reveal yourself to us, for we can only know you if you give yourself to be known, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## Bible Reading

For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another. 12 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. 13 Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters, if the world hates you. 14 We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. 15 Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life residing in him. 16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 19 This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: 20 If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. 21 Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God 22 and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. 23 And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. 24 The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us. (1 Jn. 3:11-24 NIV)

### **Intercessory Prayer**

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit with the angels we sing and glorify your name. We are thankful for all that you have given us through Jesus Christ our Saviour. We lift our hearts to heaven and adore our God for you have done marvellous things and you have made our hearts glad. Our souls glorify the Lord our God, and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour. You have been mindful of the humble and sinful state of our lives. But today and forever we have been blessed and we have been given authority to be called the children of God. Mighty God you have done great things for us and you live and dwell in holiness and you will bring us to that holy place dressed in robes of righteousness. We thank you that we have experienced mercy, that you have stretched out your mighty arm to reach us where we were you have lifted us out of darkness, you have set our feet upon our God the rock, you have put a new song in our mouths a hymn of praise to our God.

We come in the name of Christ before the throne of grace to find help in our time of need.

We pray for our nation: at a time when we should speak peace and love to one another, yet all we hear from our national leaders is hatred, mockery and scorn. Lord help our politicians to turn away from the negative attitude that they have adopted. Help them to come together to find a way to lead this nation forward. Raise up men and women who will be respected, take away the anger and spite and lead us God. We have to cry to you because we seem to be hopelessly lost. We pray for those in authority who have to take grave decisions that have an impact upon lives and the economy. Lord at a time when we need a national unity we have people finding opportunity to seek political gain.

Lord as our political leaders are at odds with one another Lord we do little better in the church. We have turned away from your word and we encourage lifestyles that are contrary to your word. We have turned away from the Gospel and are preaching a message that will never see people delivered from their sins. Lord teach us your word, help us to proclaim the Gospel as revealed in your word.

We thank you for the opportunities that we have to be able to share the Gospel with others. We pray that you will provide opportunities for us to invite friends to attend a Christianity explored study.

We pray for our congregation. With many nationalities present, many have friends and family overseas. Lord we pray for our families that you will bless them. May the Saviour bless today with salvation those friends and family who remain outside

of Christ. May the witness of your people be a blessing to them and a means of bringing them to Christ.

We pray for those who remain unwell, give wisdom to the medical staff that they might be able to diagnose and treat those who are ill. We pray for physical, emotional and spiritual strength for those who are learning to cope with debilitating illness.

Lord in mercy be pleased to hear our prayer, for Christ the Saviour's sake.

Amen.

**Hymn**           How deep the Father's love for us

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

**Sermon**

**Hymn**           731 Jesus the joy of loving hearts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6Xhrxw4Cis>

**Benediction**