

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 17th May 2020

Before we join together: two hymns to sing – to help us prepare

(1) Praise the Lord!" -

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqVZjtVLQHA&list=PLDspioRxb6rbShhxCnUGotW8_mWxBLOOi&index=54

(2) "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the king of creation" –

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

At 10.45am: Welcome

Scriptural call to worship, and prayer for God's presence and blessing

We read God's word from Psalm 118:21-24

"I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

And we pray, using words from 1 Kings 8:57-58

"The Lord our God be with us... May he not leave us or forsake us, that he may incline our hearts to him, to walk in all his way and to keep his commandments. Amen."

Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness

Together we confess our sins:

Most merciful God,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us to amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be;

that we may act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God.

Amen.

Declaring our faith together

We read from the Heidelberg Catechism, reminding one another what it means to belong to Jesus our Saviour and King.

Q. Why is Jesus called God's only-begotten Son, since we also are children of God?

A. Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God.

We, however, are children of God by adoption, through grace, for Christ's sake.

Q. Why do you call him our Lord?

A. Because he has ransomed us, body and soul, from all our sins,

not with silver or gold but with his precious blood,

and has freed us from all the power of the devil to make us his own possession.

Notices

Congregational Bible reading – Psalm 10

This is a psalm of “lament”, in which the believer cries out to God: “Why?” All around him are people who think God neither exists nor cares. So, the psalmist calls on God to act, and reminds himself that the Lord does see and hear – He will bring justice.

Prayers of intercession

Today we pray for: (i) Those in our church family struggling with sin and suffering; (ii) for God’s justice against his enemies; (iii) for our Queen and government.

Bible reading and Sermon – Matthew 21:23-46

Singing in response to God’s Word

“O great God of highest heaven”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOPbanJKWE8>

A prayer for God’s blessing – Numbers 6:24-26

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”
Amen.