

Lord's Day worship: Sunday 6th September 2020

Before we join together: to help us prepare, sing two songs

"God is our strength and refuge": <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFn_dBWhBPc</u> "In how many persons does this one God exist?": <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ey2njtZayk</u>

At 10.45am: Welcome and notices

Scriptural call to worship

" If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God." (Colossians 3:1-3)

Song: Come, thou Fount of every blessing - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zogRsurIdDE

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing Tune my heart to sing Thy grace Streams of mercy never ceasing Call for songs of loudest praise Teach me some melodious sonnet Sung by flaming tongues above Praise the name! I'm fixed upon it Name of Thy redeeming love

2. Hitherto Thy love has blessed me Thou hast brought me to this place And I know Thy hand will bring me Safely home by Thy good grace Jesus sought me when a stranger Wandering from the fold of God He, to rescue me from danger Interposed His precious blood 3. Oh to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be Let Thy goodness, like a fetter Bind my wandering heart to Thee Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it Prone to leave the God I love Here's my heart, oh take and seal it Seal it for Thy courts above

4. Oh that day when freed from sinning I shall see Thy lovely face Full arrayed in blood-washed linen How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace Come, my Lord, no longer tarry Bring Thy promises to pass For I know Thy pow'r will keep me Till I'm home with Thee at last

Confessing our sins and seeking the assurance of forgiveness

Most merciful Father, our Creator and Judge, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart; and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We earnestly repent, and are truly sorry for all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake forgive us. And strengthen us to serve and obey you in lives wholly renewed by your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: prays in thanksgiving for Christ's death and resurrection, and prays that God would grant us assurance of the salvation that has been given freely to us.

Declaring the Christian faith: using the New City Catechism

Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life.

Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

How can we be saved?

Only by faith in Jesus Christ and in his substitutionary atoning death on the cross; so even though we are guilty of having disobeyed God and are still inclined to all evil, nevertheless, God, without any merit of our own but only by pure grace, imputes to us the perfect righteousness of Christ when we repent and believe in him.

Congregational Bible reading – Psalm 24

Prayers of intercession

Bible reading and Sermon: Matthew 26:1-16

- 1. The powerful plan of God (verses 1-2)
- 2. The wickedness of men (verses 3-5, 14-16)
- 3. The priceless blood of Jesus (verses 6-13)

Hymn: The myst'ry of the cross - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_35IPrjzq8

The mystery of the cross I cannot comprehend, the agonies of Calvary. You the perfect Holy One, crushed Your Son, Who drank the bitter cup reserved for me.

Your blood has washed away my sin - Jesus, thank You The Father's wrath completely satisfied - Jesus, thank You Once Your enemy, now seated at Your table - Jesus, thank You

By Your perfect sacrifice I've been brought near, Your enemy You've made Your friend. Pouring out the riches of Your glorious grace, Your mercy and Your kindness know no end.

A prayer for God's blessing – Hebrews 13:20-21

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."