

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE SHEET PROPER 8

June 28th, 2020

Words of Welcome

Lighting of the candle....

OPENING RESPONSES

Creator of community,

We gather in your name.

Generous and inclusive friend,

We rejoice in our friendship here.

Lover of laughter and song,

We offer these to you.

Giver of our daily bread,

We thank you for all that nourishes us.

God, our constant companion,

Be present in all our sharing.

OPENING PRAYER

Loving God,

we gather in response to your invitation;

we gather together, welcomed by you.

May the warmth of your welcome

inspire and enhance the worship we offer to you.

In Jesus' name. Amen

HYMN/ SONG: How Great Thou Art.

**Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:**

*Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;**

Refrain

**And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in.
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin:**

Refrain

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home – what joy shall fill my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!**

Refrain

Stuart K Hine (1899-1989)

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CONFESSION

When we are so caught up in our own material
priorities that we become ensnared in thoughtlessness
and selfishness.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

When we refuse or neglect to reach out to others, as
faithful disciples of Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

When we forget that the true rewards of faith are not
material or financial gain but lie in a closer, more
meaningful relationship with God.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

ABSOLUTION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Steadfast God,

You greet us as a loving parent

And patiently love us beyond all measure.

Great is your faithfulness.

May we offer that same kindness

To all whom we encounter,

Knowing it is Christ whom we greet

As we welcome others,
Amen

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**For the word of God in Jesus,
For God's wisdom all around us,
For God's word and wisdom in us
Thanks be to God.**

BIBLE READINGS

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Jeremiah addresses the false prophet Hananiah, warning that prophecies of peace will only come to pass when the Lord has sent a real prophet.

Then the prophet Jeremiah responded to Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the Lord's temple. The prophet Jeremiah said: "Indeed. May the Lord do just as you have said! May the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back from Babylon the equipment of the Lord's temple and all the exiles to this place. However, listen closely to what I have to say to you and all the people: The prophets who came before you and me long ago prophesied war, disaster, and disease against many lands and great kingdoms. So the prophet who prophesies peace is recognized as one who is actually sent by the Lord only when that prophet's message is fulfilled."

This is the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

Jesus explains that anyone who welcomes one of his disciples receives Jesus himself and, by extension, his heavenly Father. Even the smallest gesture of kindness will be rewarded.

Those who receive you are also receiving me, and those who receive me are receiving the one who sent me. Those who receive a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward. Those who receive a righteous

person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. I assure you that everybody who gives even a cup of cold water to these little ones because they are my disciples will certainly be rewarded."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you O Christ

REFLECTION

RESPONSE: AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

With the whole church
**We affirm that we are made in God's image,
Befriended by Christ,
Empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere,
**We affirm God's goodness
At the heart of humanity,
Planted more deeply that all that is wrong.**

With all creation,
**We celebrate the miracle and wonder of life,
The unfolding purposes of God,
Forever at work in ourselves and the world.**

RESPONSE: INTERCESSIONS

Lord hear our prayer,
**for you are our strength and our inspiration
and in you we trust.
Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**God in heaven,
Your name is to be honoured.
May your new community of hope
Be realised on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the essentials of life.
Release us from our wrongdoing
As we also release those who wrong us.
Do not test us beyond our enduring;
Save us from all that is evil.
For you embrace justice, love and peace,
Now and to the end of time.
Amen**

HYMN: Jesus Christ is Waiting

**Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too;
make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.**

**Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus I am angry too;
in the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.**

**Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too;
let my care be active, healing, just like you.**

**Jesus Christ is dancing, dancing in the streets,
where each sign of hatred he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus I should triumph too;
where good conquers evil let me dance with you.**

**Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few:
walk one step before me; I will follow you.**

John L Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (1958-2019)
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Scotland. www.wildgoose.scot

PEACE

*Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever
welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." We turn
to one another in a spirit of welcome and peace.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you...

*We take a moment to write a peace greeting to one
another whilst listening to the Iona chant: Peace be with
you....*

A BLESSING

May you leave here today inspired and refreshed in
faith.

May your life's work be to learn, and to deepen your
understanding of, loving kindness.
May you find fulfilment in the work of the kingdom on
earth.
May you have confidence that your reward awaits you.
And the blessing of God almighty...

SENDING RESPONSES

Gathered and scattered,
God is with us.

In suffering and hope,
God is with us.

Now and always,
God is with us.

A PRAYER FOR THE COMING WEEK.

A reflective prayer..

Lord Jesus, give me the eyes to notice the thirsty around
me,
behind closed doors,
on the streets,
in my family.

Give me the strength to turn off my lukewarm self-
absorption
and to turn on the refreshing tap
of your compassion,
your generosity,
your cleansing.

Give me the daring to offer a cup of my treasure,
my vulnerability,
my heart,
to another.

And give me the courage to step out of myself,
to place that cup into the empty hands of another in
need,
acknowledging my own need
to reach out for your living water day by day.
Amen.

QUESTIONS AND THOUGHTS TO PONDER IN THE COMING WEEK.

How do you feel when someone knocks on your door and you're not sure who it is?

What do you do to welcome newcomers to your church?

Describe the best welcome you have ever received in someone's home.

What was it about the welcome that made such a difference to you?

Can you replicate that in your own life, in our church?

Acknowledgements

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- Spill the Beans
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- Roots for Worship.