

South East Northumberland Ecumenical Area

St George's United Reformed Church

Morpeth

Sunday 8th March 2020

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome and Introductions

I lift up my eyes: where does my help come from? **My help comes from the Lord.**

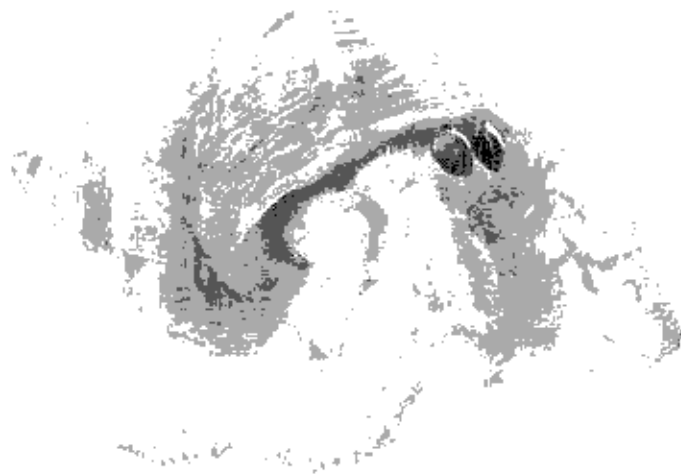
The Lord who made heaven and earth. **Let us come now and worship him.**

HYMN 289 "To God Be the Glory"

O Lord, our God, maker of heaven and earth, we belong to you. As we gather in this place today, let our hearts rejoice in the promise of eternal life. **Amen.**

O Lord, our God, the earth is full of your glory. Let us come before your throne to worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As you were faithful to our ancestor Abraham, so too are you faithful to us. Your promises never fail. We worship and adore you. **Amen.**

Living God, we are sorry for the times when we have pretended that we do not belong to you. We are sorry for the times when we have not stood up or stood out for the things we should. We are sorry for when we have remained in the dark and have been too afraid to shine in the light. We are sorry when we have let injustice prevail because we have been too afraid to speak out. Forgive us, Lord, we pray – in Jesus' name. Amen.



Heavenly Father, we thank you that you are a faithful God who always keeps his promises and forgives those who confess their sins. Thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus. Thank you for the gift of your Holy Spirit. Thank you for the gift of eternal life.

We praise you for your goodness. We praise you for your kindness. We praise you for your faithfulness. We praise you, because we can. Amen.

Family Church Time

HYMN 92 "Amazing Grace how sweet the sound"

Old Testament Reading Genesis 12.1 – 4

Epistle Reading Romans 4.

HYMN 243 "Now the green blade rises"

Gospel Reading John 3: 1 – 17.

The Message

HYMN 295 "Breathe on me breath of God"

Prayers of intercession

We pray for those who don't belong, those on the margins of society – the poor, the homeless, the weak, the powerless. **Open our hearts, Lord, to welcome all.**

We pray for asylum seekers and refugees, those who have no place to call home, driven from their communities, lives shattered by war and violence. **Open our hearts, Lord, to welcome all.**

We pray for those in our workplaces or schools who feel that they

don't belong, who seem strange to us, or us to them, who are bullied or abused for being different – help us to stand up for them, and for justice. **Open our hearts, Lord, to welcome all.**

Lord, may our church always be a place of welcome, hospitality, love and grace – where all who enter will feel that they belong. **Open our hearts, Lord, to welcome all. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Offering is received and dedicated

Prayer of Dedication

Creator God, we will stand firm for the world. We will speak out when we see your creation being spoiled, misused, neglected. We will act to protect and nurture our planet and all that lives on it. We will stand firm for creation.

Redeemer God, we will stand firm for the oppressed. We will speak out when we see injustice, abuse, exploitation. We will act to protect the most vulnerable and to restore lives that are broken. We will stand firm with all those who suffer.

Empowering God, we will stand firm for your kingdom. We will speak out your message of love, peace and redemption. We will be the message in the way we live our daily lives. We will stand firm wherever your love is most needed.

HYMN 557 "Who would true valour see"

The Blessing.

Order of Service

Please stand as the Bible is brought into church.

Opening Words.

Hymn: 289 *"To God be the glory"*

Prayer and Lord's Prayer.

Family Church time.

Hymn: 92 *"Amazing grace"*

Notices and Offering.

Musical interlude as children leave for separate meetings.

Bible Readings: Genesis Chapter 12 Verses 1 to 4 [OT p12]
 Romans Chapter 4 [NT p191]
 John Chapter 3 verses 1 to 17 [NT p119]

Hymn: 243 *"Now the green blade rises"*

Sermon.

Hymn: 295 *"Breathe on me, breath of God"*

Prayers of Intercession.

Hymn: 557 *"Who would true valour see"*

Blessing and Three-fold sung Amen.

Please remain standing until the Bible has been taken out of the Church.

A very warm welcome to all visitors to our church today. We thank Revd Tom Quenet from Pegswood for leading our worship, thanks also to our Organist Ken Irvine for the music, to Vivien Bennett for our flowers and to our Readers this morning. Tea & Coffee will be served in the South Transept after Worship. All are welcome. Fairtrade goods are also on sale.

NOTICES

"Casablanca" Lent course: -

Monday 9th March 7.00 pm at MMC. Also Monday 16th March.

Tuesday 10th March 2.00 pm at SGURC. Also Tuesday 17th March.

Please see posters around church giving full details of meetings here and at Morpeth Methodist Church (MMC).

Wednesday 11th March at 12.30 pm Lunchtime Concert by *"The Fiddling Three"* in a programme of Light Classical Music, Folk Music and a bit of Swing – all easy listening. Doors open at Noon with Tea, Coffee and Biscuits available. Admission £3.00.

Friday 13th March at 7.30 pm in the Church. Greater Morpeth Development Trust is hosting a "Writer's Evening". Please see Posters around Church for further details. Three North-East writers will be talking about their work. Tickets £6 at the door including refreshments.

Saturday 14th March at 7.30 pm Country Dance Club meets in the Hall

ASO on Saturday 14th March at 7pm for 7.30pm Christian Aid Spring Evening event. There will be full meal and talk about Kenya. Tickets £7.50, available from Margaret Johnson. See posters around the church for full details.

Sunday 15th March at 10.30 am Morning Worship led by Revd. Jack Macadam from Cramlington.

Tuesday 17th March at 3.00 pm Ladies Coffee Club meets in the Drysdale Room with speaker Patricia Gatherum giving a talk entitled *"An African Adventure"*. (Please note that this is a change to the original programme.)

Wednesday 18th March at 12.30 pm Midweek Service. Tea & Coffee available from Noon.

ALSO at 7.00 pm Elders meet in the Drysdale Room

Thursday 19th March to Saturday 21st March at 7.30 pm in the Hall The Community Players Spring Production – "Ladies Day".

Sunday 22nd March at 10.30 Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday led by our Minister Revd. Julian Sanders. Praise will be led by our Orchestra.

Advance Notice

A Workshop led by Revd. John Bell from the Iona Group is being held by SENEa at Ashington on Saturday 28th and an Area Service also at Ashington being led by John Bell on 29th March. Please see full details on posters in the Vestibule and Hall Noticeboards. The two posters appear very similar which is unfortunate. A Service will be held in St George's led by Sue Rutherford for those unable to attend the Area Service.

"Do you like Easter Eggs?" On Saturday 4th April there will be a Fair Trade 'Big Brew' coffee morning from 10am - 12 noon. It is being put on by the Justice and Peace Group in aid of Traidcraft. There will be a stall selling Fair Trade Easter Eggs & fancy goods.". The venue has yet to be finalised.