

Songs of Praise service for 2 August, 2020

from the United Reformed Church at Morpeth,
Widdrington and Gt. Bavington

Opening Words

Hymn: **Father, I place into your hands**

The things that I can't do,
Father, I place into your hands
The things that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands
The way that I should go,
For I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands
My friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
The things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands
The person I would be,
For I know I always can trust you.

Father, we love to see your face,
We love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise
And in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you
And in your presence rest,
For we know we always can trust you.

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Reading: **1 Corinthians 13: 1-3, 11-13**

I may be able to speak the languages of human beings and even of angels, but if I have no love, my speech is no more than a noisy gong or a clanging bell. I may have the gift of inspired preaching; I may have all knowledge and understand all secrets; I may have all the faith needed to move mountains — but if I have no love, I am nothing. I may give away everything I have, and even give up my body to be burnt — but if I have no love, this does me no good.

When I was a child, my speech, feelings, and thinking were all those of a child; now that I have grown up, I have no more use for childish ways. What we see now is like a dim image in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. What I know now is only partial; then it will be complete — as complete as God's knowledge of me.

Meanwhile these three remain: faith, hope, and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Hymn: **Lord Jesus Christ you have come to us**

You are one with us, Mary's Son.
Cleansing our souls from all their sin
pouring Your love and goodness in
Jesus our love for you we sing,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ now and every day
Teach us how to pray, Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance Lord of you
Into our lives your power breaks through,
living Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
Born as one with us, Mary's Son.
Led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus help us see
You are Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ we would come to you
live our lives for you, Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through,
living Lord.

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Prayer

Father God, We would come to you
and live our lives for you, though at times
we struggle to live as people you want us to be.
We want to be people filled with
Faith, Hope and Love,
and yet so often we fail to heed
the promises of Scripture
and the good news of the Gospel.

We come today to worship you
and to be filled again with your Spirit
as we sing our hymns and listen to your Word for us.
May we during this time listen to your voice
calling to us, and encouraging us in our journey of
faith.

May we be so filled with Faith, Hope and Love,
that when we go into the world,
and meet with those we live with,
our words and actions show
that we are a people of faith,
that there is hope in the gospel,
and that your love is available to all.

We offer our prayers today in the name of Christ,
who taught us to say together....

The Lord's Prayer

Reading: John 14: 1-14

Jesus the Way to the Father

"Do not be worried and upset," Jesus told them. "Believe in God and believe also in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house, and I am going to prepare a place for you. I would not tell you this if it were not so. And after I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to myself, so that you will be where I am. You know the way that leads to the place where I am going."

I am telling you the truth: those who believe in me will do what I do — yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father's glory will be shown through the Son. If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

Hymn: All my hope on God is founded

he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil is builded,
tower and temple fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore from his store
newborn worlds rise and adore.

Daily doth the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy doth wait on his command.

Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ, his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (altd)

Reading : Psalm 23

Hymn: Make me a channel of your peace

Where there is hatred let me bring your love;
Where there is injury your pardon, Lord;
And where there's doubt true faith in you.

Refrain:

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light;
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
In giving to all men that we receive;
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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Reading: Matthew 6:24-34

"No one can be a slave of two masters; he will hate one and love the other; he will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. This is why I tell you not to be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes? Look at the birds: they do not sow seeds, gather a harvest and put it in barns; yet your Father in heaven takes care of them! Aren't you worth much more than birds? Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it?"

"And why worry about clothes? Look how the wild flowers grow: they do not work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that not even King Solomon with all his wealth had clothes as beautiful as one of these flowers. It is God who clothes the wild grass — grass that is here today and gone tomorrow, burnt up in the oven. Won't he be all the more sure to clothe you? How little faith you have!"

"So do not start worrying: 'Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?' (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.) Your

Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings.

Hymn: O 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
Then sings my soul....

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
Then sings my soul....

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!
Then sings my soul....

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Reading: John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no-one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. This is my command: love each other.

Hymn: A new commandment, I give unto you that you love one another as I have loved you, that you love one another as I have loved you. By this shall all know that you are my disciples, if you have love one for another; by this shall all know that you are my disciples: if you have love one for another.

Reading: Psalm 121

I look to the mountains;
where will my help come from?
My help will come from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let you fall;
your protector is always awake.
The protector of Israel
never dozes or sleeps.
The LORD will guard you;
he is by your side to protect you.
The sun will not hurt you during the day,
nor the moon during the night.
The LORD will protect you from all danger;
he will keep you safe.
He will protect you as you come and go
now and for ever.

Prayer

Lord Jesus
As we sing our songs of faith, hope and love,
and listen to the promises of your word in Scripture
we offer to your prayers and concerns for the
world and those whom we love.

We pray for those who struggle with their faith.
We pray for those who are challenged and persecuted
because of what they believe and who are not able
to proclaim their faith publicly as we do.
We pray for those whose faith has been weakened by
tragedy and disaster.
We pray for those whose faith journeys have just
begun
that they may continue to find support and
encouragement
through which their faith may be deepened.

We pray for those who struggle with hope.
We pray for those who are battling with disease and
illness
and fear the outcomes of diagnosis and treatment.
We pray for those whose experience of Covid-19
has left them with an unsure and unpredictable
future.
We pray for those struggling with mental health,
who live daily without a positive outlook on life.

We pray for those whom we love and those we find it hard to love.

We pray for those who are in our circles of family and friends,

for whom we have particular concerns at this time.

We pray for all those in our church communities who we love as brothers and sisters.

We pray for those whose relationships have broken down,

those who are alone, and do not feel loved at this time.

Lord Jesus,

we lay before you all those on our hearts and minds and offer our prayers of hope, faith and love to you today,

knowing these things are of you, and are what you will for all people.

AMEN

Hymn: Colours of day dawn into the mind,

The day has begun, the night is behind.

Go down in the city, into the street,

And let's give the message to the people we meet.

Refrain:

So light up the fire and let the flame burn,

Open the door, let Jesus return.

Take seeds of His Spirit, let the fruit grow,

Tell the people of Jesus, let His love show.

Go through the park, on into the town;

The sun still shines on, it never goes down.

The light of the world is risen again;

The people of darkness are needing a friend.

So light up the fire....

Open your eyes, look into the sky,

The darkness has come, the Son came to die.

The evening draws on, the sun disappears,

But Jesus is living, His Spirit is near.

So light up the fire...

Sue McClellan, John Pac, Keith Rycroft

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Blessing