

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
SUNDAY 20th September

WELCOME EVERYONE

Psalm 146 - Praise the Lord my soul!
I want to praise the Lord throughout my life.

LET OUR HEARTS SING OUT -

1. Lord for the years, Your love has kept and guided,
Urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
Sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.
2. Lord for that word the word of life which fires us,
Speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
Teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the word, receive Your people's praise.
3. Lord, for our land in this our generation,
Spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care:
For young and old, for commonwealth and nation,
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
4. Lord, for our world where men disown and doubt You
Loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
Hungry and helpless, lost indeed without You:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
5. Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us –
Self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
Past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

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We use this hymn as our prayers of praise
Praise you Lord, for the wonder of Your healing.
Praise You, Lord, for Your love so freely given;
Outpouring, anointing,
Flowing in to heal our wounds:
Praise You, Lord, for Your love for me.
Praise You, Lord, for Your gift of liberation.
Praise You, Lord, you have set the captives free;
The chains that bind are broken
By the sharpness of Your sword:
Praise You, Lord, You gave Your life for me.
Praise You, Lord, you've borne the depths of sorrow.
Praise You, Lord, for Your anguish on the tree;
The nails that tore Your body
And the pain that tore Your soul:
Praise You, Lord, Your tears they fell for me.
Praise You, Lord, you've turned our thorns to roses.
Glory, Lord, as they bloom upon Your brow;
The path of pain is hallowed,
For Your love has made it sweet:
Praise You, Lord, and may I love You now.

AMEN -

Let's say the Lord's prayer.....

Today's Bible reading is John 6 vs 16- 24.

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened. But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading. The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

WE REFLECT - This reading follows the feeding of 5,000. Jesus is motivated to separate himself from his followers and go up into the hills, and for the disciples to take a boat.

A storm can quickly spring up on the Lake of Galilee as did here. It was Passover time so it is highly likely that there was a full moon and Jesus on the hillside would clearly see the disciples rowing hard through the waves. It's as they approach the shore that they see Jesus walking towards them and in their terrified state Jesus assures them "it is I, Don't be afraid". Jesus gets on to the boat and they immediately get to shore. I like to think of Jesus on the hillside watching his disciples rowing, he would see the storm coming, sees the difficulty they are in, and immediately goes to meet them.

Jesus watches over us in the same way, not just as a spectator, but as one who loves and cares.

-He sees us when life is difficult and is immediately with us, comforting and stilling our beating hearts and calming our thoughts with His peace.

-He sees us when we are successful and standing firm for what is right, glad for our steadfastness.

-He sees us when we fail and are untrue to our calling - still loving, still forgiving, still renewing

-He sees us when are looking confused and searching for affirmation - and provides means for us to be assured of His presence.

Remember, in the story Jesus would also have been watching others he had fed, those who thought he was someone other than the savior and servant of the world - Jesus loved them all, and longed for them to know Him as the son of God. Today Christ looks on **all** His children with love, and that same longing, that they will become familiar with His ways, and recognize Him as the savior of the world, the servant King. His promise has been there from the beginning, for everyone, and will be forever.

*I am with you and will watch
over you wherever you go...*
Genesis 28:15

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord God, be with those who we have a special concern for today

With those who are hungry and thirsty....and those who desperately need to know your love.....

With those who are unwell, anxious, and those who need support and comfort.....

Lord lift them, be the light in their life, & the love.

Lord God, we pray for those in authority

- Those who are tempted to abuse their power...
- Those who seek to receive and not give
- Those who do not look out for all people

Lord let their hearts be open to your guiding grace

Lord God, we pray for all who need strength

- To resist temptation
- To put aside their own needs & help others
- To serve rather than expect to be served

Merciful God, we are sorry, forgive us for our mistakes, for the times we have turned our backs on your Way. Thank you for this new beginning.

Help us by your Spirit to walk Your Way Jesus.

We pray this in Your name. AMEN

PLEASE SING OR SAY

O LET THE SON OF GOD ENFOLD YOU

With His Spirit and His love,

Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.

O let Him have the things that hold you,

And His Spirit like a dove

Will descend upon your life and make you whole.

Jesus, Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.

Jesus, O Jesus, Come and fill Your lambs.

O come and sing this song with gladness

As your hearts are filled with joy,

Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name.

O give Him all your tears and sadness,

Give Him all your years of pain,

And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

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OUR OFFERING

Generous God, receive our offering, set aside,
given at other times, and bless it for Your use, for
your kingdom purposes, to spread the Good News
of your Salvation. AMEN

WE SING THIS HYMN

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,

Whose trust, ever child-like,

No cares could destroy;

Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,

Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,

At the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,

Whose strong hands were skilled

At the plane and the lathe;

Be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,

Your strength in our hearts, Lord,

At the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindliness, Lord of all grace,

Your hands swift to welcome,

Your arms to embrace;

Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,

Your love in our hearts, Lord,

At the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,

Whose voice is contentment,

Whose presence is balm;

Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray

Your peace in our hearts, Lord,

At the end of the day.

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A BLESSING - God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is with you now and forever more. AMEN



**NEXT WEEK WE CELEBRATE OUR
HARVEST FESTIVAL** - if you are worshipping
in your home you could make a supermarket
donation to foodbank If you are coming to the
church building please bring items for foodbank with
you if you can and offer them as you arrive.