

WORSHIP
for SUNDAY 13th September 2020

All praise to our redeeming Lord
Who joins us by His Grace
And bids, us each to each restored,
Together seek His face.

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Let's praise the lord

Praise him on the trumpet, the psaltery and harp,
Praise Him on the timbrel and the dance,
Praise Him with stringed instruments, too.
Praise Him on the loud cymbals,
Praise Him on the loud cymbals,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Hallelujah, praise the Lord,
Hallelujah, praise the Lord,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.
Hallelujah, praise the Lord,
Hallelujah, praise the Lord,
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

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AND WE PRAY TOGETHER

We pause to be still, to re-centre our scattered
senses upon the presence of God...
Christ, our Lord of light and dark, noise and silence,
beauty and despair, abundance and poverty.
Help me to praise you in every way, through all
means, in every circumstance of life.
Jesus, you died for me, you died for us. What a
sacrifice; what a gift for through your death came
new life in your resurrection, and potentially for all.
Holy Spirit, power and energy, strong and gentle,
seen and unseen, a touch, a breath, a moment.
We give this time to you. AMEN

THE LORD'S PRAYER - Our Father.....

Our Bible Reading - Genesis 13 vs 14-18

The Lord said to Abram "look around from where
you are, to the north and south, to the East and
west. All the land that you see I will give to you
and your offspring for ever. I will make your
offspring like the dust of the earth so that if anyone
could count the dust then your offspring could be
counted. Go walk through the length and breadth
of the land for I am giving it to you. So Abram went
to live near the great trees of Mamre at Hebron
where he pitched his tents. There he built an altar
to the Lord.

A REFLECTION

After Lot and Abram had separated, God spoke to
Abram. "Look around from where you are, all that

you see I will give to you" *Let's take a few
moments to silently thank God for all He gives..*

..... I often 'prayer walk', going along streets
praying as I pass each home, shop and building. I
sometimes like to go up to higher places to look
down on towns and villages, taking in the vastness
of God's presence, imagining His energy pouring
and surging through whole areas, and also gently
touching, healing and holding. Then looking out to
sea and knowing that His power and energy, at
work where we are, is also coursing through the
whole universe. Wow.

We're not all able to go out and travel around, but
God's invitation to Abram to look around from
where we are is for us today as much as it was for
Abram then. God invites us to look beyond where
we are and to pray 'further'. How do we do this?
Do you have a street, ordnance survey, UK or world
map at home, newspapers. Maybe the news on TV
or radio. You could remember places you have
visited, or look through your address book. In our
minds eye we can travel along roads, past the
doctors' surgery, the shops, the leisure centre, in
our minds eye we can walk the length and breadth
of our neighbourhoods, past schools, police
stations and church buildings. We can use these
means to "prayer walk" at home in order to pray
further.

In the previous chapter God blessed Abram, and
says Abram will be a blessing to others.
We are and will be a blessing to others through our
prayers. I heard back from a young man who had
previously asked to be covered in prayer at a
specific time. He said 'I walked into the room and I
felt totally calm and all my anxiety stopped. Thank
you for praying.'

God loves that we are interested in His children.
Jesus shows and models for us the human journey
and ministry. Jesus shows us that God's love
extends to all corners of the earth. Jesus prayers
blessed others, and if God can bless through the
human Jesus, then he can bless through us.
So this week let's pray further, using whatever
means we have available. We'll often find that we
are blessed through seeing connections between
our prayers and changes for others, connections
we wouldn't have made before. But even if we do
not hear of the blessings, it shouldn't matter, we
are just called to be faithful and trust God's Spirit is
working, blessing, and waiting for others to make

the connection with Him, then open their hearts and invite Jesus to be part of their own lives.



Please read these words from a hymn written in the 17th century by James Montgomery

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed, the motion of a hidden fire that trembles in the breast. Prayer is the burden of a sigh the falling of a tear, the upward glancing of an eye when none but God is near.

Let's prayerfully Sing.....

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.

*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.

*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.
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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LET'S PRAY taking our time to think

Lord we picture your world as it is.....
We pray that through your blessings it will become what You and we long for it to be.
We picture your people of all ages.....
We pray that through Your blessings they will be healed and loved, & will become healers and lovers
We picture the towns & villages where we live...
We pray that through Your blessings Your way will become our way
We picture people sick and dying, nursing & caring
We pray that through Your blessings, Your peace and presence will fill all every moment AMEN



OUR OFFERING - Generous God, we ask you to bless the gifts we lay aside and give, as a thanksgiving offering for all you give to us. AMEN

THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'll not want.

He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone.
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

A BLESSING

God, I yield to your call. Bless me and make me a blessing to others, everyone, everywhere.
Now and always. AMEN