

Conflict, Victory and Blessing

"Melchizedek blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth", (Gen 14:18, 19)

Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

> Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice! Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

(1 Chr 16:8-1)

Let us pray.

Sovereign Lord, our Heavenly Father, it is our heart's desire, our deepest longing, to know you, to love you, and to worship you.

It is our greatest pleasure, our highest privilege, our chief delight, to meet with you, the one true and living God, and experience your grace and favour.

Grant us power by your Holy Spirit to worship you now, in spirit and in truth.

Amen.

(Valley of Vision)

Psalm 139

O Lord You have searched me, and You know my ways; You perceive all my thoughts from afar. Your hand is upon me wherever I go; before I can speak, You already know.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn, You are there; If I rest on the far side of the sea, Your love hems me in both behind and before; You have laid Your hand upon me; You have laid Your hand upon me. Where can I flee from Your presence, O Lord? If I sleep in the depths, You are there. Your day will consume all the shadows of night; The dark cannot hide from Your brilliant light.

Confession and Assurance

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

According to your unfailing love; According to your great compassion.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

Please kneel or remain seated.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful God,

We confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in our secret thoughts and desires. We have sinned in what we have done and in what we have left undone, we have not loved you as we should, and we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. And so we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace and pardon for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all." (Isa 53:5-6)

How Deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure, That He should give His only Son To make a wretch His treasure. How great the pain of searing loss – The Father turns His face away, As wounds which mar the Chosen One Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders; Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice Call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished; His dying breath has brought me life – I know that it is finished. I will not boast in anything, No gifts, no power, no wisdom; But I will boast in Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection. Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer; But this I know with all my heart – His wounds have paid my ransom.

Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music

Psalm 110, Of David.

The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

The Lord sends forth from Zion your mighty sceptre. Rule in the midst of your enemies!

Your people will offer themselves freely on the day of your power, in holy garments;

from the womb of the morning, the dew of your youth will be yours.

The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, "You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

The Lord is at your right hand; he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.

He will execute judgement among the nations, filling them with corpses; he will shatter chiefs over the wide earth.

He will drink from the brook by the way; therefore he will lift up his head.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, age after age.

Amen!

God's Word

First Reading: Heb 7:11-25, "Jesus our Great High Priest", p. 1004

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Gen 14, p. 10

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Conflict, Victory and Blessing (Mark Payne)

O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free, rolling as a mighty ocean in its fulness over me! Underneath me, all around me, is the current of his love; leading onward, leading homeward to that glorious rest above.

Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus – spread his praise from shore to shore! He who loves us, ever loves us, changes never, nevermore: he who died to save his loved ones intercedes for them above; he who called them his own people watches over them in love. Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best; vast the ocean of his blessing, sweet the haven of his rest! Oh the deep, deep love of Jesus – for my Heaven of heavens is he; this my everlasting glory – Jesus' mighty love for me!

Samuel Trevor Francis (1834-1925) © Jubilate Hymns

Creed (Heidelberg Catechism)

Believer, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death, am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ, who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins, and redeemed me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation. Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.

Prayers of Intercession

After each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, simply allow the bread and wine to pass by, and reflect on what is taking place.

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Father, as we have received these gifts of bread and wine, you have fed us with the spiritual food of the body and blood of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you for assuring us of your goodness and love, and that we are members of his body. Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. "Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce." (Prov. 3:9)

Psalm 146

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise; I will sing the glorious praises Of my God through all my days. Put no confidence in princes, Nor for help on man depend; They shall die, to dust returning, And their purposes shall end.

Happy is the man that chooses Israel's God to be his aid; He is blest whose hope of blessing On the Lord his God is stayed. Heaven and earth the Lord created, Seas and all that they contain; He delivers from oppression, Righteousness He will maintain. Food He daily gives the hungry, Sets the mourning prisoner free, Raises those bowed down with anguish, Makes the sightless eyes to see. Well Jehovah loves the righteous, And the stranger He befriends, Helps the fatherless and the widow, Judgement on the wicked sends.

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, O my soul, Jehovah praise; I will sing the glorious praises Of my God through all my days. Over all God reigns forever, Through all ages He is King; Unto Him, your God, O Zion, Joyful hallelujahs sing.

Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Please put the dates below in your diary and be in prayer for these upcoming events:

19 - 20 March	Church Family Weekend
29 March	An Evening with Rory Steyn at Godolphin School
30 March	An Evening with Rory Steyn at St George's Church, Bulford
3 April	Chris Sinkinson preaching at CCS
3 April	Lunchtime Dialogue Dinner with Chris Sinkinson
6 April	Hope Explored begins for three weeks

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