



Do Not Lose Heart

“For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord.” (2 Cor 4:5)

Call to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation;
We will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD God is our strength and our song,
and he has become our salvation.

(Isa 12:2)

**Sing praises to the LORD,
for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.**

(Isa 12:5)

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 95

O come, let us joyfully
sing to the LORD;
To the Rock of salvation
let us raise our voice.
Let us come before him
expressing our thanks;
Let us with loud singing
praise him and rejoice.

The LORD is the great God,
King over all gods.
The earth's deepest places
he holds in his hand;
The heights of the mountains
belong to the LORD.
The oceans are his,
and he formed the dry land.

Come, let us bow humbly
and worship the LORD;
Let us kneel before him,
our Maker, in prayer.
For we are his people
and he is our God;
He shepherds and feeds us
in his loving care.

Today if you hear
and attend to his voice,
Don't harden your hearts
as you did on the way;
In Meribah's desert
you quarrelled with me,
You tested my patience
at Massah that day.

Your fathers provoked me
and tested me there,
Although they had witnessed
the works I had done.
With that generation
for forty long years
My deep indignation
continued to burn.

I said, "They're a people
whose hearts go astray;
They do not acknowledge
that my ways are best."
And so, in my anger,
I stated on oath,
"I swear that they never
shall enter my rest."

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.

(1 Jn 1:8-10)

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God, and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

Please either kneel or be 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 secret thoughts and desires
that we are not able to understand, but which are all known to You.
For this reason, we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy,
Seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

“But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.”
(Rom 5:8-9)

Psalm 103b (As far as East is from the West)

As far as east is from the west,
So far his love has borne away
Our many sins and trespasses
And all the guilt that on us lay.
Just as a father loves his child,
So God loves those
who fear his name.
For he remembers we are dust,
And well he knows our feeble frame.

Each human life is like the grass,
And like a meadow flower it grows.
Its place will never be recalled
Once over it the tempest blows.
But everlasting is God's love
For those who fear him, and their seed—
For those who keep his covenant,
And carefully his precepts heed.

Psalm 27 (Responsive Psalm)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.
**Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.**

One thing have I asked of the Lord,
that will I seek after:
**that I may dwell in the house of the
Lord all the days of my life, to gaze
upon the beauty of the Lord
and to enquire in his temple.**

God's kingly rule is over all;
In heaven he has set his throne.
O you his angels, praise the LORD,
Strong ones by whom his will is done.
O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,
His servants who perform his word.
Praise God, his works
throughout his realm,
And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

Teach me your way, O Lord,
**and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.**

Give me not up to the will of my
adversaries;
**for false witnesses have risen against
me, and they breathe out violence.**

I believe that I shall look upon the
goodness of the Lord in the land of the
living!
**Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let
your heart take courage; wait for the
Lord!**

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: John 8:12-20, "I Am the Light of the World", p. 894

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 2 Cor 4:1-6 p. 965

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Do Not Lose Heart (Mark Payne)

Response to God's Word

How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation,
you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith
in his excellent word!
What more can he say to you
than he has said –
you, who unto Jesus
for refuge have fled?

In every condition –
in sickness and health,
in poverty's vale,
or abounding in wealth;
at home or abroad,
on the land, on the sea,
as days may demand,
shall your strength ever be.

Fear not, I am with you,
O be not dismayed!
For I am your God
and will still give you aid:

I'll strengthen you, help you,
and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous,
omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials
your pathway shall lie,
my grace all-sufficient
shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you;
I only design
your dross to consume,
and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus
has leaned for repose,
I will not, I cannot,
desert to his foes;
that soul, though all Hell
should endeavour to shake,
I'll never, no, never,
no, never forsake!

Richard Keen (c.1787) MMRecords

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.**

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)

Tell Out, My Soul

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings
give my spirit voice;
tender to me
the promise of his word –
in God my Saviour
shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of his name!
Make known his might,
the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure,
from age to age the same
his holy name:
the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul,
the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions
lay their glory by;
proud hearts and stubborn wills
are put to flight,
the hungry fed,
the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul,
the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise,
and his mercy sure:
tell out, my soul,
the greatness of the Lord
to children's children
and for evermore!

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Benediction

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

Please diarise the dates below and pray for these upcoming events:

19 - 20 March	Church Family Weekend with Matt Searles
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 at CCS
6 April	Hope Explored begins for three weeks