



Christ
Church
Salisbury

Morning
Service
23rd Oct, 2022

The Incomparable Christ

Walking Happily

*“His delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.” (Ps. 1:2)*

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.

**May the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,
our Rock and our Redeemer.** *(Ps 19:14)*

Amen.

Psalm 34

Tell his praise
in song and story,
bless the Lord with heart and voice;
in my God is all my glory,
come before him and rejoice.
Join to praise his name together,
he who hears his people's cry;
tell his praise,
come wind or weather,
shining faces
lifted high.

To the Lord
whose love has found them
cry the poor
in their distress;
swift his angels
camped around them
prove him sure to save and bless.
God it is who hears our crying
though the spark of faith be dim;
Taste and see, beyond denying
blessed are those who trust in him.

Taste and see!
In faith draw near him,
trust the Lord with all your powers;
seek and serve him,
love and fear him,
life and all its joys are ours:
true delight in holy living,
peace and plenty, length of days;
come, my children,
with thanksgiving,
bless the Lord in songs of praise.

In our need he walks beside us,
ears alert to every cry;
watchful eyes
to guard and guide us,
love that whispers 'It is I'.
Good shall triumph,
wrong be righted,
God has pledged
his promised word;
so with ransomed saints united,
join to praise our living Lord!

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Confession and Assurance

Hear the summary of the whole law, from our Lord Jesus Christ:

"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.

God's word tells us:

*"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 1:8-9)

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

Please kneel or be seated.

Have mercy on us, O God

According to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin!

For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us.

**Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgement.**

Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit.

For you will not delight in sacrifice, or we would give it;

you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.

Our sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;

a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. (Ps. 51)

Assurance of Pardon

"The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust." (Ps 103:8-14)

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
than to you he has said –
to you, who to 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

Psalm 128, A Song of Ascents

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!
O Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

**If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;
my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

**O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD
there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.
And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.**

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: Col 1:1-14, p. 983

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Psalm 1, p. 448

This is the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

*Sermon: The Incomparable Christ:
Walking Happily (David Thornhill-Smith)*

Psalm 1

How blessed the man
who does not walk
Where wicked men
would guide his feet,
Who does not stand
in sinners' paths
Or sit upon the
scorners' seat.
The law of God
is his delight,
His meditation
day and night.

He prospers like
a tree, which has
Been planted by
a flowing stream,
And in its season
yields its fruit;

Its leaves are always
fresh and green.
In every act
and every word
He knows the blessing
of the LORD.

Not so the wicked:
they are like
The chaff the wind
will blow away.
They will not in
the judgement stand,
Nor sinners with
the righteous stay.
God knows the way
the righteous go;
The wicked's way
he'll overthrow.

© 2003, *Sing Psalms*

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

Heavenly Father, we offer you eternal praise and thanks that you have given so blessed us poor sinners, that we would be drawn into the Communion of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, whom you have delivered to death for us, and whom you have given us as the food and drink of life eternal. We humbly beg you, heavenly Father, to keep us as faithful members of your church, to strengthen us by your Spirit, and to draw us together in love and unity, that we may serve through those good works which you have prepared for us to do through Jesus Christ our Lord, and for His glory, Amen.

Gifts and Offerings

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall.

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)

There is a Higher Throne

There is a higher throne
than all this world has known,
where faithful ones
from every tongue
will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand,
made faultless through the Lamb;
believing hearts
find promised grace;
salvation comes.

Hear Heaven's voices sing;
their thunderous anthem rings
through emerald courts
and sapphire skies;
their praises rise.

All glory, wisdom, power,
strength, thanks and honour are
to God our King
who reigns on high
forever more.

And there we'll find our home;
our life before the throne.
We'll honour him in perfect song
where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye
as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes
our Shepherd King;
we'll reign with him.

*Keith & Kristyn Getty © 2002
Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

Benediction

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

Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

IN THE WEEK		
Tue 25th Oct	Tots & Toys	Volunteers welcome; speak to David.
Wed 26th Oct	Fellowship Group	Weight of Glory II; speak to Alan.
Wed 26st Oct	Fellowship Group	Joshua 24; speak to Mark.
Thu 27th Oct	Talking Faith & Music	Evening with Jeff Hammer (Friends welcome!)
Sun 30th Oct	Morning Worship	Col 1:15-20, The Preeminent Christ.
FURTHER AHEAD		
Sat 12th Nov	Men's Event	Air Museum Tour (Friends welcome!)

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are from the English Standard Version (ESV)