



Restoration!

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.” (Jer 31:33)

Call to Worship

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Psalm 95:1,2

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.**

**Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

O Come, Let Us Joyfully Sing to the LORD (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 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.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty and most merciful Father, We have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things that we ought to have done; and we have done those things that we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." (1 Pet 2:24-25)

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 to 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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God's Word

First Reading: Matt 5:1-20, Sermon on the Mount

This is the Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 115

Not to us, O Lord, not to us,
but to your name give glory,
**for the sake of your steadfast love
and your faithfulness!**

Why should the nations say,
“Where is their God?”

**Our God is in the heavens;
he does all that he pleases.**

Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.

They have mouths, but do not speak;
eyes, but do not see.

**They have ears, but do not hear;
noses, but do not smell.**

They have hands, but do not feel;
feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound
in their throat.

**Those who make them become like
them; so do all who trust in them.**

O Israel, trust in the Lord!

He is their help and their shield.

O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord!

He is their help and their shield.

You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord!

He is their help and their shield.

The Lord has remembered us;

he will bless us;

he will bless the house of Israel;

he will bless the house of Aaron;

**he will bless those who fear the Lord,
both the small and the great.**

May the Lord give you increase,
you and your children!

**May you be blessed by the Lord,
who made heaven and earth!**

The heavens are the Lord's heavens,
but the earth he has given
to the children of man.

**The dead do not praise the Lord,
nor do any who go down into silence.**

**But we will bless the Lord
from this time forth and forevermore.**

Praise 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!**

Second Reading: Jer 30-33

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

Sermon: Restoration Promised (Mark Payne)

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

God's grace first taught my heart to fear,
His grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe this far
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
My shield and great reward is he
As long as life endures.

And when this mortal life is past
And earthly days shall cease,
I shall possess with Christ at last
Eternal joy and peace.

The earth will soon dissolve like snow,
The sun no longer shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

John Newton (1779)

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.

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.

The stewards will distribute the wine and bread.

Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.

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.

"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you." (Deut 16:17)

Psalm 67

O God, to us show mercy
And bless us in your grace;
Cause now to shine upon us
The brightness of your face;
That so your way most holy
On earth may soon be known,
And unto every people
Your saving grace be shown.

O God, let all men praise you,
Let all the nations sing;
In every land let praises
And songs of gladness ring;

For you shall judge the people
In truth and righteousness,
And you shall lead the nations
Your justice to confess.

Let all the peoples praise you,
All tongues and tribes should sing,
For earth in rich abundance
To us her fruit shall bring.
The Lord our God shall bless us;
Let all the earth maintain
The praise it owes its Maker,
The reverence due His name.

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Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the Name of Christ, Amen.

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

THIS WEEK		
Tues 27 th June	Women in the Word	Speak to Hilary
Thurs 29 th June	Prayer Meeting	Online at 7.15pm
Sun 25 th June	Sunday Worship	Jer 34-45 (Judgement Assured: Judah)
FURTHER AHEAD		
Sun 9 th July	Sunday Worship	Eph 4. Also: Ordination, Baptism & Lunch

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

The Book of Jeremiah

Jeremiah was called to take God's words to the people of Judah during a revival under King Josiah in 627 B.C. and continued doing so until the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians forty years later. His task was to hammer home the message that their fall was not due to any lack on God's part but was due entirely to their unfaithfulness, to listening to false prophets rather than true ones, and to living lives in service of evil.

Theme

In ch 1:9, 10 we're given the theme of the book in poetic form, which is also the heart of God's message to Judah through Jeremiah. We can summarise the message for us as:

Hearing Hope in Words of Judgment. *"Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, 'Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.'"*

Structure

The book is not set out chronologically, but rather moves between various perspectives of God's dealings with the people of Judah and of the full unfolding of redemption in Christ. The structure can be confusing as *Restoration* features before *Judgement*. It does, however, reflect the thematic verse above of *plucking up* and *destroying*, but not without hope - the promise includes *building* and *planting*. Jeremiah foretold a return from exile and a new covenant in which God's people would at last be His people, and would truly look to Him as their God. Israel and Judah would be reunited and finally fulfil their calling to bring light to the world. Commentators differ significantly on how the book reflects this thematic verse, but broadly speaking we have the following, which frames our sermon series:

Outline

1. Prologue
 - a. God's Word in Jeremiah (ch. 1)
2. Sin Unveiled
 - a. Despicable Adultery (ch. 2-6)
 - b. Deceitful Idolatry (ch. 7-10)
 - c. Dark Times (ch. 11-20)
 - d. Difficult Lives (ch. 21-29)
3. Restoration (ch. 30-33)
4. Judgement Assured
 - a. Judah Faces Judgement (ch. 34-45)
 - b. The Nations Face Judgement (ch. 46-51)
5. Epilogue
 - a. The Fall of Jerusalem (ch. 52)