



Righteousness and Marriage

*“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” (Matt 5:6)*

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!**

(Psalm 105:1-4)

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.**

Psalm 65 (Praise Awaits You God in Zion)

Praise awaits you God in Zion,
Soon to you all flesh will come.
Though our sins prevail against us
You atone for every one.
Blessed are those
you choose and welcome.
Dwelling in your courts of grace.
We are filled with every blessing,
Satisfied in you always.

Holy God and mighty Saviour,
Hope of all the farthest seas.
When we pray you hear and answer
You make known
your wondrous deeds.

By your strength
you formed the mountains,
Stilled the roaring of the waves.
Earth rejoices at your goodness,
Dawn and evening sing your praise.

From your river ever-flowing
You give life to all the land.
Autumn rains and grain at harvest,
You provide for every man.
All the year
is crowned with bounty,
Deserts bloom and hills bear fruit.
Hills and valleys, all creation
Lift their hymn of praise to you.

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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 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)

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer!
There is no more for heaven now to give.
He is my joy, my righteousness
and freedom,
My steadfast love,
my deep and boundless peace.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus.
For my life is wholly bound to His.
Oh how strange and divine,
I can sing, "All is mine",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken.
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay.
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,
For in my need, His power is displayed.
To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me,
Through the deepest valley He will lead.
Oh the night has been won,
and I shall overcome,
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven.
The future sure, the price it has been paid.
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon.
And He was raised to overthrow the grave.
To this I hold, my sin has been defeated.
Jesus now and ever is my plea.
Oh the chains are released,
I can sing, "I am free",
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus.
For He has said that He will bring me home.
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne.
To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,
All the glory evermore to Him.
When the race is complete,
still my lips shall repeat.
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

*Farren, Thompson, Robinson
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God's Word

First Reading: Genesis 42

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 78:32-55

In spite of all this, they still sinned; despite his wonders, they did not believe.

So he made their days vanish like a breath, and their years in terror.

When he killed them, they sought him; they repented and sought God earnestly. They remembered that God was their rock, the Most High God their redeemer.

But they flattered him with their mouths; they lied to him with their tongues. Their heart was not steadfast toward him; they were not faithful to his covenant.

Yet he, being compassionate, atoned for their iniquity and did not destroy them; he restrained his anger often and did not stir up all his wrath. He remembered that they were but flesh, a wind that passes and comes not again.

How often they rebelled against him in the wilderness and grieved him in the desert! They tested God again and again and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

They did not remember his power or the day when he redeemed them from the foe, **when he performed his signs in Egypt and his marvels in the fields of Zoan. He turned their rivers to blood, so that they could not drink of their streams.**

He sent among them swarms of flies, which devoured them, and frogs, which destroyed them. He gave their crops to the destroying locust and the fruit of their labour to the locust.

He destroyed their vines with hail and their sycamores with frost. He gave over their cattle to the hail and their flocks to thunderbolts.

He let loose on them his burning anger, wrath, indignation, and distress, a company of destroying angels. He made a path for his anger; he did not spare them from death, but gave their lives over to the plague.

He struck down every firstborn in Egypt, the firstfruits of their strength in the tents of Ham. Then he led out his people like sheep and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

He led them in safety, so that they were not afraid, but the sea overwhelmed their enemies. And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won.

He drove out nations before them; he apportioned them for a possession and settled the tribes of Israel in their tents.

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: Matt 5:27-32, p. 810

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Righteousness and Marriage" (Mark Payne)

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does his successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The prisoner leaps to loose his chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

For Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honours to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

(Isaac Watts)

People, and realms, of every tongue,
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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, 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 134

You servants of the LORD our God
who work and pray both day and night,
in God's own house lift up your hands
and praise the LORD with all your might.

The LORD God bless you from his
throne,
the LORD show you his gracious face.
He who created heaven and earth
give you his everlasting peace.

Benediction and Dismissal

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

Notes & Notices

Please diarise and pray for the items below:

<i>THIS WEEK</i>		
Wed 24th Jan	Fellowship Group	Ref. Mark
Sun 28th Jan	Morning Worship	10am

<i>FURTHER AHEAD</i>		
Tue 30th Jan	Women in the Word	Ref. Hilary
Thu 1st Feb	Church Meeting re Building	7:00 for 7:15pm at the church
TBA (Feb)	Men's Ministry Meeting	Ref. Alan Steele

A series of horizontal dotted lines for taking notes or prayers.