



## Welcome to our service of worship

28 April 2024, 10am

### “Foundations of faith: Carrying the cross”

#### Welcome

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

#### **Song (1130)**

<sup>1</sup>Wonderful, so wonderful  
Is your unfailing love;  
Your cross has spoken mercy over  
me.

No eye has seen, no ear has  
heard,  
No heart could fully know  
How glorious, how beautiful you  
are.

*Chorus:*

*Beautiful One, I love you,  
Beautiful One, I adore,  
Beautiful One, my soul must sing.*

<sup>2</sup>Powerful, so powerful,  
Your glory fills the skies,  
Your mighty works displayed for all  
to see.

The beauty of your majesty  
Awakes my heart to sing  
How marvellous, how wonderful  
you are.

You opened my eyes to your  
wonders anew,  
You captured my heart with your  
love,  
'Cause nothing on earth  
Is as beautiful as you.

My soul, my soul must sing,  
My soul, my soul must sing,  
My soul, my soul must sing,  
Beautiful One.

(Tim Hughes)

## **Song (991)**

<sup>1</sup>*Men:* I will worship (*Women:* I will worship)  
With all of my heart (with all of my heart),  
I will praise you (I will praise you)  
With all of my strength (all my strength).  
I will seek you (I will seek you)  
All of my days (all of my days),  
I will follow (I will follow)  
All of your ways (all your ways).

*I will give you all my worship,  
I will give you all my praise.  
You alone I long to worship,  
You alone are worthy of my praise.*

## **Hymn (1129)**

<sup>1</sup>With a prayer you fed the hungry,  
With a cry you stilled the storm;  
With a look you had compassion  
On the desperate and forlorn.  
With a touch you healed the leper,  
With a shout you raised the dead;  
With a word expelled the demons,  
With a blessing broke the bread.

*Love incarnate, love divine,  
Captive this heart of mine  
Till all I do speaks of you.*

<sup>2</sup>As a sheep before the shearer  
You were silent in your pain;  
You endured humiliation  
At the hands of those you'd made.  
And as hell unleashed its fury  
You were lifted on a tree,  
Crying 'Father God, forgive them,  
Place their punishment on me.'

<sup>2</sup>I will bow down (I will bow down),  
Hail you as King (hail you as King),  
I will serve you (I will serve you),  
Give you everything (give you everything).  
I will lift up (I will lift up)  
My eyes to your throne (my eyes to your throne),  
I will trust you (I will trust you),  
I will trust you alone (trust you alone).

(David Ruis)

<sup>3</sup>I will feed the poor and hungry,  
I will stand up for the truth;  
I will take my cross and follow  
To the corners of the earth.  
And I ask that you so fill me  
With your peace, your power, your  
breath,  
That I never love my life so much  
To shrink from facing death.

(Stuart Townend)

## **Confession**

Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned  
in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy  
forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly,  
love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

## **Absolution**

**Collect – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**Prayer for Sonlight**

**Mission update: 1,000 Hills**

## **Hymn (935)**

<sup>1</sup>“Take up your cross!” the Saviour said,  
“if you would my disciple be;  
deny yourself, the world forsake  
and humbly follow after me.”

<sup>2</sup>Take up your cross – let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm:  
his strength shall bear your spirit up,  
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.

<sup>3</sup>Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
nor let your foolish pride rebel:  
your Lord for you the cross endured  
to save your soul from death and hell.

<sup>4</sup>Take up your cross, then, in his strength,  
and calmly every danger brave;  
'twill guide you to a better home,  
And lead to victory o'er the grave.

<sup>5</sup>Take up your cross, and follow Christ,  
nor think 'til death to lay it down;  
for only he who bears the cross  
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

<sup>6</sup>To you, great Lord, the One-in-three,  
all praise for evermore ascend:  
O grant us in our home to see  
The heavenly life that knows no end.

(C.W. Everest)

## Readings

### **Mark 8:31-38**

Jesus then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. 'Get behind me, Satan!' he said. 'You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels.'

### **Mark 10:17-31**

As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. 'Good teacher,' he asked, 'what must I do to inherit eternal life?'

'Why do you call me good?' Jesus answered. 'No one is good – except God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honour your father and mother."' "

‘Teacher,’ he declared, ‘all these I have kept since I was a boy.’ Jesus looked at him and loved him. ‘One thing you lack,’ he said. ‘Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.’

At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth. Jesus looked round and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!’ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’

The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, ‘Who then can be saved?’ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.’

Then Peter spoke up, ‘We have left everything to follow you!’

‘Truly I tell you,’ Jesus replied, ‘no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields – along with persecutions – and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.’

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn (799)**

<sup>1</sup>All I once held dear, built my life upon,  
All this world reveres, and wars to own,  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss;  
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.

*Knowing you, Jesus,  
Knowing you, there is no greater thing.  
You’re my all, you’re the best,  
You’re my joy, my righteousness, And I love you, Lord.*

<sup>2</sup>Now my heart's desire is to know you more,  
To be found in you and known as yours.  
To possess by faith what I could not earn,  
All-surpassing gift of righteousness.

<sup>3</sup>Oh, to know the power of your risen life,  
And to know you in your sufferings.  
To become like you in your death, my Lord,  
So with you to live and never die.

(Graham Kendrick)

## **Thanksgiving for our offering**

### **Affirmation of faith**

Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality with God,  
but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human likeness.  
He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him on high,  
and given him the name above every name:  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## **Prayers**

### **Lord's prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.

## **Banns, notices and family news**

### **Hymn (708)**

<sup>1</sup>To God be the glory! great things he hath done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice;  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice:  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give him the glory; great things he hath done!*

<sup>2</sup>O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

<sup>3</sup>Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see!

(Fanny J. Crosby)

## **Blessing**

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