

Sunday Morning



Please participate in this act of worship on Sunday at 10.30am if you can.



Included in this Sunday service is communion, if you wish to participate please have bread & wine ready. If you prefer not to have wine you can use squash or orange juice.

Call To Worship Hebrews 12: 1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Song: God in my Living (Everything)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bhJHMoDsdE>

God in my living
There in my breathing
God in my waking
God in my sleeping

God in my resting
There in my working
God in my thinking
God in my speaking

Be my everything
Be my everything
Be my everything
Be my everything

God in my hoping
There in my dreaming
God in my watching
God in my waiting

God in my laughing
There in my weeping
God in my hurting
God in my healing

Christ in me
Christ in me
Christ in me the hope of glory
You are everything

Christ in me
Christ in me
Christ in me the hope of glory
Be my everything

Prayers

Lord Jesus Christ, you declared yourself
the way, the truth, and the life.
Reveal to us your truth, and inspire us with your life,
that now and at all times
we may find in you the way to the Father.

AMEN



Communion

Please have bread and wine ready

Feel free to speak all the words out loud or quietly

Do take your time and be still when it seems appropriate

Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life.
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. *John 6.35*

Invitation to the Table

(be still for a moment and then say the words below)

It is Jesus who invites you to come to this table

So let us come to this table, not because you must but because you may,
Come not to testify that you are righteous, but that you sincerely love our Lord Jesus Christ and
desire to be His true disciple.

Come not because you are strong but because you know you are weak.
Let us come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come,
but because you need His mercy and help.

Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more.

Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you.

Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body.



Song: Through it all (I've learned to trust in Jesus)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bo-mp_m3nj8

I've had many tears and sorrows
I've had questions for tomorrow
There've been times I didn't know right from
wrong
But in every situation
God gave blessed consolation
That my trials only come to make me strong

I've been a lot of places
And I've seen so many faces
But there've been times I've felt so all alone
But in that lonely hour
In that precious, lonely hour
Jesus let me know I was His own

Through it all
Through it all
I've learned to trust in Jesus
I've learned to trust in God
Through it all
Through it all
I've learned to depend upon His Word

So I thank God for the mountains
And I thank Him for the valleys
I thank Him for the storms He's brought me
through
Cause if I never had a problem
I wouldn't know that He could solve them
I wouldn't know what faith in His Word could do

Through it all
Through it all
I've learned to trust in Jesus
I've learned to trust in God
Through it all
Through it all
I've learned to depend upon His Word
Yes, I've learned to depend upon His Word
I've learned to depend upon His Word

Words of Institution

(Take the bread and while saying the words break it)

For in the same night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread; and after giving you thanks he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said, Take eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

(take the cup while saying the words)

Again after supper he took the cup: he gave you thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink this all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me

Prayer of thanks giving

Pray your own pray of thanks giving for bread and wine or say:

We give you thanks for this bread and wine,
symbols of our world
and signs of your transforming love.
Send your Holy Spirit, we pray,
that we may be renewed
into the likeness of Jesus Christ

Sharing the bread and wine

(take the bread and say:)

The body of Christ broken for me

(take the wine and say)

The blood of Christ set for me

Prayer of intercession

When you ready pray for someone or some situation that is particular on your heart at the moment.

Prayer—The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, which art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come.

Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive them that trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

The power, and the glory,

For ever and ever. Amen.

Song: Light of the world

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-MmRGSEG2LM>

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes,
let me see
Beauty that made
this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus

So here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that
You're my God;
And You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above.
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

Chorus

Here I am....

And I'll never
know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.

Chorus

So here I

John 4 : 43-54 Jesus heals an official's son

43 After the two days he left for Galilee. 44 (Now Jesus himself had pointed out that a prophet has no honour in his own country.) 45 When he arrived in Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him. They had seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, for they also had been there.

46 Once more he visited Cana in Galilee, where he had turned the water into wine. And there was a certain royal official whose son lay ill at Capernaum. 47 When this man heard that Jesus had arrived in Galilee from Judea, he went to him and begged him to come and heal his son, who was close to death.

48 'Unless you people see signs and wonders,' Jesus told him, 'you will never believe.'

49 The royal official said, 'Sir, come down before my child dies.'

50 'Go,' Jesus replied, 'your son will live.'

The man took Jesus at his word and departed. 51 While he was still on the way, his servants met him with the news that his boy was living. 52 When he enquired as to the time when his son got better, they said to him, 'Yesterday, at one in the afternoon, the fever left him.'

53 Then the father realised that this was the exact time at which Jesus had said to him, 'Your son will live.' So he and his whole household believed.

54 This was the second sign Jesus performed after coming from Judea to Galilee.

It is striking how a simple story of a father's concern for his son so sparsely told (only but 11 short verses) introduces a major theme found in John's Gospel. The way the story is told, Jesus seems almost irritated by the intrusion of the man's begging for his son:

"Unless you people see signs and wonders you will never believe".

The official on the other hand must have loved his son very much. He (a royal official) must have felt desperate to go up to someone and beg that someone who was but a carpenter- low on the societal ladder, and who was, moreover, a controversial Rabbi. For this humbling of himself what he got was a "put down" and almost a command 'Go' and a promise 'your son will live!' The royal official took Jesus at his word – did he have choice?! As it was, it turned out well; at the exact time that Jesus said those almost abrasive words the son who was at death's door was healed and lived, and they all believed.

John continues in verse 54 to say that this was Jesus's second sign or miracle and it is the phrase 'your son will live' that he wants us to notice. An important theme running through his Gospel is that of Jesus- bringer of life. The theme is introduced in chapter 1: 4:

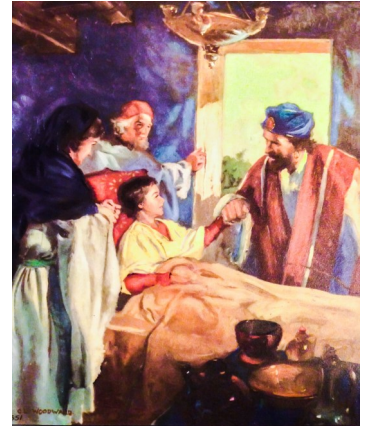
"In him was **life**, and that **life** was the light of all mankind".

Life is given initial further meaning in, possibly, the best known verse in the Bible: Chapter 3: 16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have **eternal life**.

Then, in the meeting with the Samaritan woman John has Jesus say:

Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'
John 4: 14



And so John goes on expanding the theme of life. The phrase I like most is found in chapter 10: 10

“I have come that they may have **life**, and have it to the full.”

(There are more; see which ones you might be able to find.)

In the story of the healing of the son (the second ‘sign story’) the theme of life finds its first illustration of what this life might be like ‘on the ground’ so to speak. We encounter the son in the story ‘near death’. It is one of the most painful things in life to see a young life prematurely ended. A young life is laden with hope and new possibilities, death destroys that hope. For the son to be given a second opportunity is not ‘just’ giving him his health back but also opens up these new



possibilities again. I wonder how, when the father tells him the story, he would feel. Would he grasp that second chance and live life to the full? Would he be grateful to Jesus and live a life that reflected something of his teaching? Would this young lad be a bringer of life in his friendships and relationships with people? Certainly it wasn’t just the father who believed, we are told his ‘whole household believed’.

And then for the father, the death of his son would have been disastrous. It wasn’t just the pain of not having him around any longer but in Jesus’ time it would have meant that he had no future. Not only would he not have someone looking after him in old age but also the family name might die out with the death of his son! No future and no hope! With the ‘resurrection’ of his son, the father knows he will live on, there is hope, there is a future, there is eternal life!

John, in his Gospel recounts stories of encounters with Jesus and time and again lives are turned upside down. In this story a royal official encounters Jesus, begs Him and life is never the same again. Through the official’s encounter with Jesus, his son and his household encounters Jesus too, and all believed and their lives were never the same again! They accepted the offer of fullness of life made by Jesus. They experienced Jesus the bringer of life to the whole world. The bringer of life for those who believe in Him and whose lives will never be the same again!

Hymn: To God be the glory

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TD_9P9DB4pw

To God be the glory, great things he has 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 we may go in.

Refrain:

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 thro’ Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has
done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev’ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.
[Refrain]

Great things he has taught us, great things he
has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
[Refrain]

Blessing

Go then in peace and serve the Lord In the name of the Father And of the Son And of the Holy Spirit

AMEN