

# Sunday Morning Worship

14<sup>th</sup> March 2021

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent*



*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,  
for his steadfast love endures for ever."*

*Psalm 107:1*

## Opening Prayer

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you this morning...

God of our days and years,

we set this time apart for you.

Form us in the likeness of Christ

so that our lives may glorify you. **Amen.**

## Opening Worship – Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.

Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;  
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee;  
I will ever give to Thee.

Confession

*God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith...*

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry  
and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy on you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Collect of the Day

Lord God  
whose blessed Son our Saviour  
gave his back to the smiters  
and did not hide his face from shame:  
Give us grace to endure the sufferings of this present time  
with sure confidence in the glory that shall be revealed;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you hate nothing that you have made  
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:  
Create and make in us new and contrite hearts  
that we, worthily lamenting our sins  
and acknowledging our wretchedness,  
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,  
perfect remission and forgiveness;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*Kids Slot*  
*Psalm 107: 1-3 & 17-22*

Affirmation of Faith

We join together to say:  
I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
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,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and 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.*

*Bible Reading*  
*Sermon*

Prayers and Intercessions

The response to each section of prayer – when you hear the phrase –  
Lord, let Your light shine – **in our hearts and in Your world.**  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

Lord, we seek to make our home in You, for in You is our hope, in You is our peace.  
May we abide in You as You are in us. Grant, O Lord, that in turning to You we may  
find new vision, new love and new strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives  
and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

O gracious Lord, may Your Church be a home for the weary,  
a shelter for the fearful, a strength to the weak,  
and a place of healing and forgiveness to the troubled and the guilty.  
We pray for all who are spiritually hungry,  
for those who thirst after righteousness,  
for those who seek truth and justice,  
for those who feel lost or without hope.  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

Lord of life,  
we pray for all those who around the world who suffer from hunger, violence,  
displacement or persecution.  
We pray for all those who go without adequate food or shelter,  
for those with no home to call their own.  
Lord, we pray for all those suffering the consequences of COVID-19;  
for all those who have lost loved ones,  
for those recovering and those who live in fear and anxiety.  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

We come to You, Lord of love.  
We give you thanks for the many blessings we enjoy;  
for the blessing of Your beautiful Creation all around us,  
for homes and loves ones,  
for laughter and friendship,  
May we not take those we care for and love for granted.  
In loving each other may we learn of Your love for us.  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

We remember all those who have lost loves ones this week,  
all those who are caring for loved ones who are ill;  
for those parted from their family and friends because of COVID-19.  
Father, be strength and comfort to those who need You today.  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

Lord, in Your Son Jesus Christ, You welcome into Your family.  
In Christ You came to meet us and through Him lead us the way of grace,  
mercy and truth.  
May we walk as children of light, in all goodness and righteousness,  
in this day and in our days to come.  
Lord, let Your light shine,  
**in our hearts and in Your world.**

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and King. *Amen*

*The Lord's Prayer*

Let's say together:

**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.  
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.

*Closing Worship – Love divine, all Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art.  
Visit us with thy salvation;  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive.  
Suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore they temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation;  
true and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

*Closing Prayers and Blessing*

Most merciful God,  
by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
you delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

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