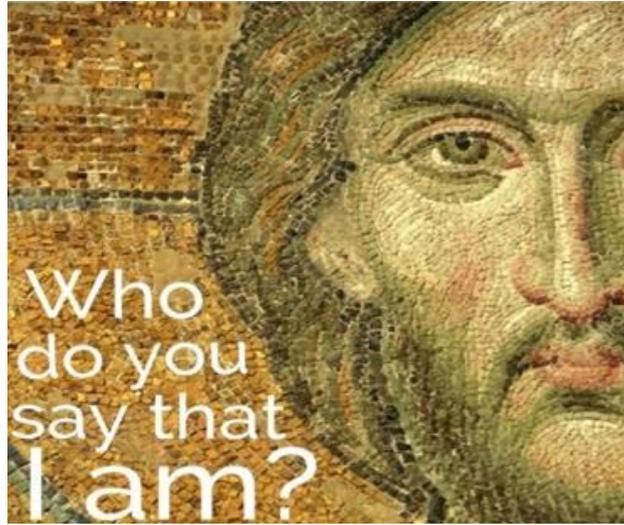


WORSHIP WITH A DIFFERENCE

AUGUST 23 2020



GATHERING WITH GOD

You are invited to light a candle in your home as we will in the church saying these words:

We light this candle to remind us of the presence of Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, with us

We come to God, remembering we are the church, united by faith despite not being able to be physically present to each other.

God is present with us and through us, to one another.

PSALM 63 1,3-4

You, God, are my God,
earnestly I seek you;
I thirst for you,
my whole being longs for you,
in a dry and parched land
where there is no water.

³ Because your love is better than life,
my lips will glorify you.

⁴ I will praise you as long as I live,
and in your name I will lift up my hands.

This is National Science Week during which we have been encouraged to be curious and to explore the wonders of God's amazing creation. We begin our worship then with a hymn that praises God for the creation.

HYMN TIS 135 *All things bright and beautiful*

Refrain:

*All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful -
the Lord God made them all.*

1 The wildflowers in their beauty,
the mountain ranges tall,
the billabongs and rivers,
and friendly birds that call, [Refrain]

2 The cold wind in the winter,
the bright, life-giving sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden -
he made them every one. [Refrain]

4 The many-coloured corals,
the creatures of the sea,
of bushland, field or desert,
on farms, or roaming free, [Refrain]

5 He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

Cecil Frances Alexander v2 alt, 5 & Refrain
Brian Black v1 Compilers if TIS v4

PRAYERS

Praise be to you, God our Creator
for the grandeur and complexity of your creation!
Thank you for your gifts of curiosity and analytic minds,
and for our eagerness to explore what we do not understand.
Be with us as we open ourselves to the unfolding wonder of your creation.

Praise be to you, Jesus, Son of the Living God,
for coming among us and showing us the love of God.
Thank you for dying and rising for us,
for your gifts of salvation and of the church.
Be with us as we open ourselves to the unfolding story of the scriptures.

Praise be to you, Holy Spirit of God.,
for gathering us into community.
Thank you for making Christ present among us
and forming us into the people we are meant to be.
Be with us as we open ourselves to your power and life.

As we look back over this week, we thank you for the good things that have happened to us.

We are sorry for the mistakes we have made
and for the people we have hurt.

We ask for your help and your grace..... Amen

God says: I love you. I forgive you. Come and walk with me.
Care for my people. Care for my Creation.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

¹⁵ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

SERMON: Jesus: "Who do you say that I am?"

SONG: *What a Beautiful Name*

You were the Word at the beginning
One With God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

*What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King*

*What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus*

You didn't want heaven without us
So Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

*What a wonderful Name it is....
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King*

*What a wonderful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus*

How sweet is your name, Lord, how good You are
Love to sing in the name of the Lord, love to sing for you all?
Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silenced the boast, of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever, Our God reigns
Yours is the Kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name, above all names

*What a powerful Name it is
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is
Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus*

Source: [LyricFind](#)
Songwriters: Brooke Ligertwood / Ben Fielding

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

O loving God,
we pray that you will give us courage and wisdom
as we face the hard realities which confront us in the life of the world today.
May those with gifts for science and human health discover ways which help us
to end the threatening infections of coronavirus
and restore our lives – body, mind and soul – to a new day.

Give to us, we pray, a profound sense of creative community,
as we care for each other,
especially those who are most vulnerable,
those who are anxious and alone,
those who grieving
and those struggling for work and security.

Hold us in your arms, like a loving parent would,
as we journey into the future.

Call us as your church towards a deeper faith, O Christ,
so that we trust that you are with us
empowering us to share the good news of our salvation.
And lift our hearts, O Holy Spirit, as we face each day, each moment . Amen.

adapted from a prayer by Rev Dorothy McRae-McMahon

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

You might like to take your offering
or a symbol of it and hold it in your hands

Lord and giver of every good thing,
we bring to you
our lives and our gifts
that we may be your loving and faithful people
confessing Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the Living God
and working for justice and well-being for all. Amen



SONG: *Cornerstone*

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name
Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Saviour's love
Through the storm
He is Lord - Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord - Lord of all

When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless, stand before the throne

*Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm
He is Lord - Lord of all*

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: Eric Oskar Liljero / Jonas Carl Gustaf Myrin / Reuben Timothy Morgan

SENDING OUT/BLESSING

Go into this new week to be the church:
Let all that you do and all that you say
bear witness to Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Living God,
whose wisdom guides us
whose compassion heals us
whose light shines in the darkness,
whose grace frees us
whose life, death and resurrection saves us
and whose love turns us to care for our neighbours.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all ever more

Ko e Kelesi 'a e Eiki ko Sisu Kalaisi, mo e 'ofa 'a e 'Otua,
mo e feohi 'o e Laumalie Ma'oni'oni,
ke 'iate kitautolu kotoa pe ia, 'o ta'engata 'Emeni.

SONG: TIS 778 SHALOM TO YOU NOW

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends
In all your living and through your loving
Christ be your shalom. Christ be your shalom

Elise Shoemaker Eslinger
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