

Worship At Home Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
Service led by Charmaine Slade

Welcome & Notices

Song 'King of Kings, majesty'

King of kings, Majesty  
God of Heaven living in me  
Gentle Saviour, closest friend  
Strong Deliverer, beginning and end  
All within me falls at Your throne

*Your Majesty, I can but bow  
I lay my all before You now  
In royal robes I don't deserve  
I live to serve Your Majesty*

Earth and Heaven worship You  
Love eternal, Faithful and True  
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls  
Brought this sinner near to Your throne  
All within me cries out in praise.  
Your majesty, I can but bow

*By Jarrod Cooper © 1996 Sovereign Lifestyle Music CCLI 8026*

Song 'Faithful One so unchanging'

Faithful one, so unchanging  
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace  
Lord of all I depend on you  
I call out to you, again and again  
I call out to you, again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble  
You lift me up when I fall down  
All through the storm  
Your love is, the anchor  
My hope is in You alone

*By Brian Doerksen © 1989 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd)  
Vineyard Songs Canada (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd) CCLI 8026*

## Opening Prayer

Holy God, you are the God above and beyond all things.

Your thoughts and your ways are greater than ours.

Yet in your Son Jesus you come down to us and meet us just where we are.

Faithful God, you draw near to us in our joy and in our grief, in our hope and in our despair. When we are bowed down, you raise us up. Your grace is sufficient for all our needs and when we sin, your mercy never fails.

We praise you for your love, which like an anchor holds us sure and steadfast.

With trust, hope and humility in our hearts and minds, we gather to praise and worship you today in church and at home.

God of compassion and love, move among us this hour.

Open our eyes, dispel our fears, and show us the real life you have to offer us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Read Mark chapter 6 verses 30-34 and 53-56

Sometimes when we walk along a pavement, across our path we find road works and a sign saying;

‘Pedestrians please use alternative crossing points’

There are times in life when we are unexpectedly diverted, knocked off course and the path of life changes for us.

We must find an alternative crossing point.

Life is a journey and is always changing.

The first disciples were always on the move with Jesus.

He sent them out on mission and they became Apostles.

In our Bible reading we heard they were in the boat crossing Lake Galilee with their Lord.

They were between points.

Are you at a crossing point in your life today?

Are you in a time of transition?

Between departure and arrival?

Some of us may be crossing over from health to sickness or from sickness to health.

Some of us may be crossing over to a new job or to new responsibilities.

Some might be crossing over from dependence to independence. School pupils and students are ending one year and looking to a new start in September.

Some of us may be crossing over the other way, from independence to dependence, needing additional support.

Some of us might be at a crossing point in our relationships.

Some of us may be crossing over from activity to rest or from rest to activity.

Or it may be another kind of crossing point you face today.

Coronavirus has brought us many enforced changes.

We have been through so many crossing points over this past year.

As new government guidance comes into force tomorrow, we find ourselves at another crossing point.

We will need wisdom in the choices we make.

Like those disciples, as a church family, we are together in the same boat.

And best of all, Jesus is with us.

That's good news.

So as you cross over – be at rest.

In all these changes, what remains important is that we support one another and stay close to Jesus.

Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He has compassion on us.

He will bring us through.

Jesus is the Light of the world.

Song 'My Lighthouse'

In my wrestling and in my doubts  
In my failures You won't walk out  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, You won't let go  
In the questions, Your truth will hold  
Your great love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea

*My lighthouse, my lighthouse  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You  
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse  
I will trust the promise  
You will carry me safe to shore...  
Safe to shore...Safe to shore...Safe to shore*

I won't fear what tomorrow brings  
With each morning I'll rise and sing  
My God's love will lead me through  
You are the peace in my troubled sea  
You are the peace in my troubled sea...

*By Rend Collective © 2013 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Integrity Music Ltd) CCLI 8026*

Sometimes life brings us most unwelcome changes.  
The rug is pulled from underneath us and we hit the ground hard.  
Change can bring us loss, separation, suffering, grief and  
heartbreak.

Sometimes tears flow in the dark.

What do we say to God at these times of change and transition?

What scriptures echo our feelings back to us?

Thankfully the Bible provides us with words when we have no  
words of our own. The Bible gives us the gift of lament.

The Old Testament book of Psalms is full of lament.

Here we find honest words directed to God, words which are full of  
regret, disappointment and complaint along with big questions and  
heartfelt prayers to God for help and deliverance.

Psalm 6 is one of these Psalms of lament.

Read Psalm 6

We are now going to watch a video presentation, which teaches us  
about the place and the power of lament.

The speaker is Ron Boyd-Macmillan who works with the Christian  
charity Open Doors which supports persecuted Christians.

In this film Ron combines biblical reflection with stories from the  
persecuted church. His message brings us light out of darkness and  
hope out of despair. This film is entitled 'Among the ashes'.

Open Doors video resource 'Among the ashes'

<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/churches/resources/among-the-ashes/>

Response Song – 'Hold me Jesus' by Rich Mullins

Well sometimes my life just don't make sense at all  
When the mountains look so big  
And my faith just seems so small  
So hold me Jesus 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf  
You have been King of my glory  
Won't You be my Prince of Peace

And I wake up in the night and feel the dark  
It's so hot inside my soul  
I swear there must be blisters on my heart  
So hold me Jesus 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf  
You have been King of my glory  
Won't You be my Prince of Peace

Surrender don't come natural to me  
I'd rather fight You for something I don't really want  
Than to take what You give that I need  
And I've beat my head against so many walls  
Now I'm falling down I'm falling on my knees

And this Salvation Army band is playing this hymn  
And Your grace rings out so deep  
It makes my resistance seem so thin  
I'm singing hold me Jesus 'cause I'm shaking like a leaf  
You have been King of my glory  
Won't You be my Prince of Peace  
You have been King of my glory  
Won't You be my Prince of Peace

*Rich Mullins © 1993 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) CCLI 8026*

## Prayers of Intercession

Lord Jesus Christ, you hugged the leper and healed the lame, be with all those who are reaching out to you at this time.

We think especially of the persecuted church, who already pay a high price for following you: those who are poor, and running out of food, those who are hated by their community and are always the last to receive help – if they receive it at all, those to whom the fear of Covid-19 is just the latest in a long list of fears which they must carry every day.

Encourage and protect the pastors who lead their flocks, and the Open Doors and Barnabas Fund partners who bring help. Bring courage to those who are afraid, strength to those who are weak, comfort to those who mourn, and hope to us all.

Lord Jesus, you are the great physician.

In your day, the demand for healing was great but you attended to each individual need.

With care and concern, the people laid the sick in your path.

In a moment of quiet prayer, we bring to you in prayer those you have placed in our path. The sick and those who care for them, those who are weary, those who mourn and lament today...

(Silent Prayer)

May they be lifted, raised up, from being by the side of the way to the side of the Shepherd.

Be with us at all the crossing points of our lives.

Guide us, guard us and lead us along your path.

Turn our lamenting to praise and bring us through our trials to the joy of your eternal Kingdom.

We ask these prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and living Saviour. Amen. The Lord's Prayer...

Song 'Jesus let your kingdom come here'

Jesus, let your kingdom come here

Let your will be done here, in us

Jesus, there is no one greater, you alone are Saviour

Show the world your love

*King of Heaven, come down, King of Heaven, come now  
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day King of Heaven, come  
King of Heaven, rise up, who can stand against us?  
You are strong to save in your mighty name  
King of Heaven, come*

We are children of your mercy, rescued for your glory  
We cry, Jesus, set our hearts towards you  
Every eye would see you lifted high

*King of Heaven, come down, King of Heaven, come now  
Let Your glory reign, shining like the day King of Heaven, come  
King of Heaven, rise up, who can stand against us?  
You are strong to save in your mighty name  
King of Heaven, come*

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## The Blessing

Thank you Lord for all your gifts to us.

We hear the call of your kingdom and now we answer your call.

Use all that we have and are so that others may enjoy abundant life  
in you.

Now may God the Good shepherd guide you in ways of peace,  
stand by you in your hour of need and hold you in the crook of his  
arm. Amen.