

Sunday Service for May 30th 2021

Don't look back, we're not going that way!

Let us be still for a few moments. Steady our breathing and focus in for we are in the presence of God. Our holy saviour, our heavenly Father who loves each one of us beyond our imagination.

Let us pray as we hear God's word,

Joel 2 says,

The day of the LORD is coming.

It is close at hand

Like dawn spreading across the mountains

a large and mighty army comes,

such as never was in ancient times

nor ever will be in ages to come...

Do not be afraid, land of Judah;

be glad and rejoice.

Surely the LORD has done great things!

Do not be afraid, you wild animals,

for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green.

The trees are bearing their fruit;

the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

Be glad, people of Zion,

rejoice in the LORD your God,

for he has given you the autumn rains

because he is faithful.

He sends you abundant showers,

both autumn and spring rains, as before.

The threshing floors will be filled with grain;

the vats will overflow with new wine and oil.

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy,

your old men will dream dreams,

your young men will see visions.

Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

Amen

Opening prayer

Lord,
help us to look out and listen for your Holy Spirit.
May we welcome you with open hearts and minds.
Call us, inspire us, surprise us and challenge us.
Give us confidence and calm assurance.
Lead us to your power and love.
Amen.

Our first song of worship today is” Be still for the presence of the Lord is moving in this place.”

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the holy One, is here;
Come bow before him now with reverence and fear
In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire, with splendour he is crowned:
How awesome is the sight, our radiant king of light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal, to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him, in faith receive from him,
Be still for the power of the Lord is moving in this place.

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Our second song is “How Great is our God!”

The splendour of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the Earth rejoice
All the Earth rejoice

He wraps himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
Trembles at His voice

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God*

Age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the end

The Godhead Three in One
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God*

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
My heart will sing
How great is our God

You're the name above all names
You are worthy of all praise
And my heart will sing
How great is our God

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God*

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Prayers of confession and assurance

God of truth, we bring to you our sorrow for our sins.
For seeking earthly absolutes and not eternal mysteries:

We are truly sorry.

For rooting ourselves in the finite and not nurturing the infinite
within:

We are truly sorry.

For saying 'I' much more than 'we' and for damaging relationships:

We are truly sorry.

Forgive us and strengthen us, we pray.

For we are truly sorry.

Amen.

Our Saviour, you choose
to save, not to judge,
to forgive, not to condemn,
to turn towards, not away,
to show us your nature and not to hide.
You allow us to know you,
to love you and to serve you –
and for all these things, and more, we are truly thankful.

Amen.

1st Old Testament Reading

Today we are reading from Isaiah Chapter 6. V 1-81 NLT version

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.”

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Amen

Reading words like these can be really challenging and it can be very tempting to think we aren't capable of being as fearless as

Isaiah! That we are nowhere near good enough! Our next song is by Lauren Daigle and has the title "Rescue". I hope this reaffirms how precious you really are!

Rescue by Lauren Daigle

You are not hidden
There's never been a moment
You were forgotten
You are not hopeless
Though you have been broken
Your innocence stolen

I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you

There is no distance
That cannot be covered
Over and over
You're not defenceless
I'll be your shelter
I'll be your armour

I hear you whisper underneath your breath
I hear your SOS, your SOS

I will send out an army to find you
In the middle of the darkest night
It's true, I will rescue you
I will never stop marching to reach you
In the middle of the hardest fight
It's true, I will rescue you

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The next song is a brand new hymn “We Seek Your Kingdom Here”
– to the tune of “Abide with Me”

We seek your kingdom throughout every sphere
We long for heaven’s demonstration here
Jesus your light shine bright for all to see
Transform, revive, and heal society

Before all things, in him were all things made
Inspiring culture, media, and trade
May all our work serve your economy
Transform, revive, and heal society

Peace, truth, and justice reigning everywhere
With us be present in our public square
Fill all who lead with your integrity
Transform, revive, and heal society

Forgive us Lord, when we have not engaged
Failing to scribe your heart on history’s page
Make us again what we were made to be
Transform, revive, and heal society

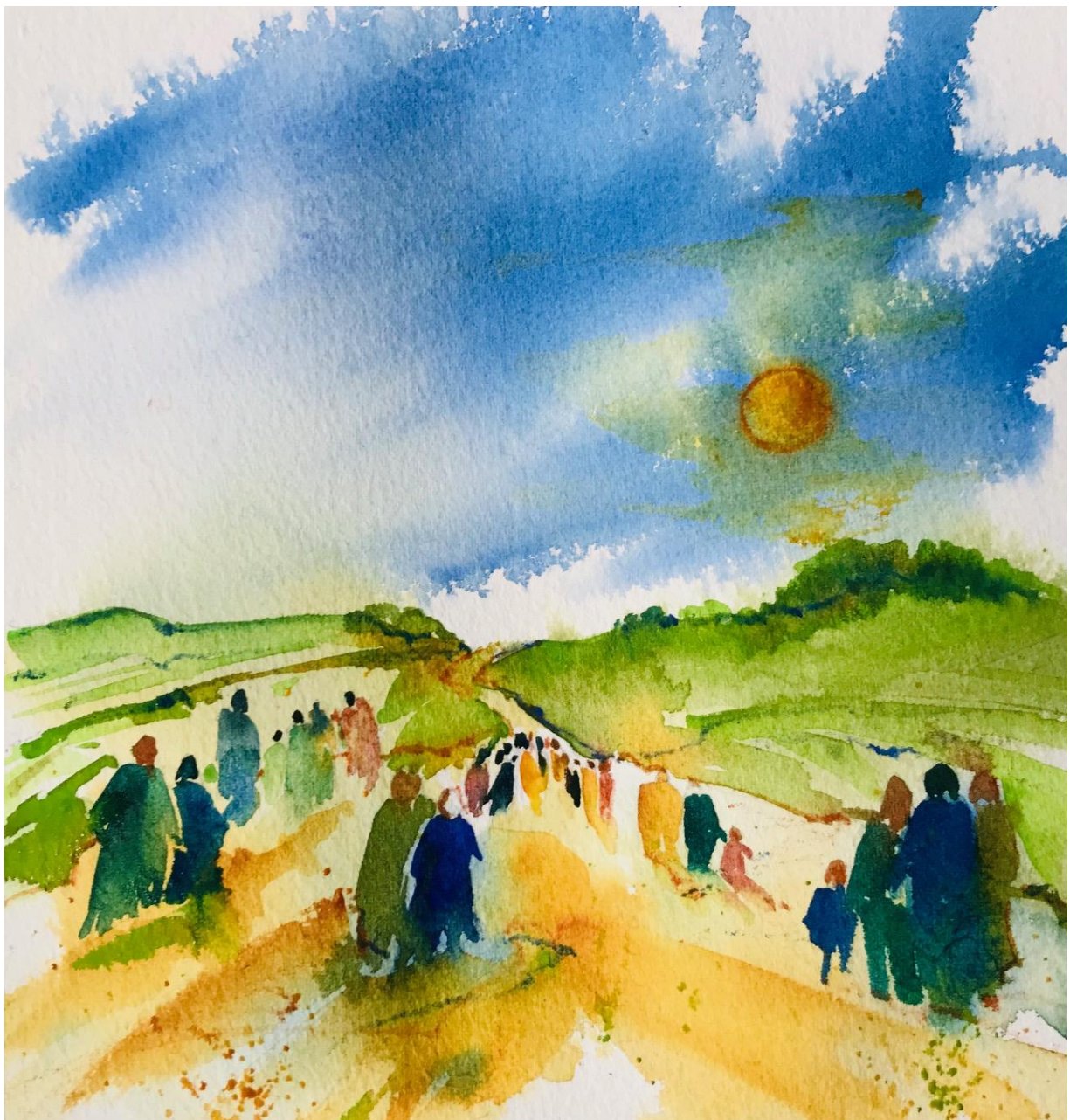
Faithful to govern ever may we be
Selfless in service, loving constantly
In everything may your authority
Transform, revive, and heal society

Melody: Eventide (Abide with me) by William Henry Monk (Public Domain) Lyrics: Noel Robinson, Andy Flannagan, Graham Hunter © 2016 Downwardly Mobile Music, Nu Image Music, Graham Hunter CCLI:8026

2nd OT Reading from Isaiah 43:16-21 NIV

This is what the LORD says—
he who made a way through the sea,
a path through the mighty waters,
who drew out the chariots and horses,
the army and reinforcements together,
and they lay there, never to rise again,
extinguished, snuffed out like a wick:
“Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.
The wild animals honour me,
the jackals and the owls,
because I provide water in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland,
to give drink to my people, my chosen,
the people I formed for myself
that they may proclaim my praise.



Jenny Hawke - creativegrace.co.uk

Our final song is The Makaton Blessing UK

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His
Face toward you
And give you peace

Amen, amen, amen
Amen, amen, amen

The Lord bless you
And keep you
Make His face shine upon you
And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His
Face toward you
And give you peace

Amen, amen, amen (we sing, we sing)
Amen, amen, amen

May His favour be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children

May His favour be upon you
And a thousand generations
And your family and your children
And their children, and their children

May His presence go before you
And behind you, and beside you
All around you, and within you
He is with you, He is with you
In the morning, in the evening
He is with you, He is with you

Blessing

I bless you today

I bless you for tomorrow

I bless each moment of your lives

Through the Holy Spirit and through our Saviour, Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen

Sending out

May God give to you and to all those you love

his comfort and his peace,

his light and his joy,

in this world and the next;

and the blessing of the Father, the Son and The Holy Spirit be upon
you always

Amen