

ORDER OF SERVICE - SUNDAY 21st AUGUST 2022

1. Call to Worship

How do you think it would affect you if you met God this morning?

Let's say the heavens open and God comes down, and (even though he's everywhere), we get an unmistakeable glimpse of his awesome majesty right here?

How do you think it would affect us?

Psalms 99:1-3:

*The LORD reigns; let the nations tremble!
He sits enthroned between the cherubim;
let the earth shake!
Great is the LORD in Zion;
he is exalted over all the nations.
Let them praise your great and awesome
name - he is holy.*

Have you ever trembled?

I think we would tremble and shake if we saw how holy God is.

- And yet when we trust in Jesus, we don't need to be afraid of him, because he becomes our shepherd.
- He's tender and gentle. He's kind and protective. He knows us and he loves us.

2. Hymn: *The Lord's my Shepherd*

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

*And I will trust in You alone,
and I will trust in You alone,
for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

[Chorus]

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for You are with me, and Your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.

[Chorus x2]

*For your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.
x2*

Stuart Townend, 1996

3. Reading of the Law

Our Lord Jesus said,

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4. Confession of Sin

Our Father in heaven, please forgive us all our sin. We have been proud and stubborn and self-righteous, in our attitudes, in things we have said, in how we've behaved. We've not trusted you with all our hearts. We've not hungered for your righteousness. We have failed to show mercy. We've not been pure in heart. We've not loved our neighbours well. We've not served the gospel well. Father grant us repentance. Forgive us.

Thank you for Jesus. Thank you for giving him to die for us. Thank you for his perfection to cover us like a robe. Thank you for your Spirit to change us from within.

Help us to obey you more fully, with hearts full of love and gratitude.

And please comfort us today with the promise that you are with us always.

We pray in Jesus' name and for his sake.

Amen.

do not fear the sadness;
(do not fear the sadness);
do not fear the sickness;
(do not fear the sickness);
Jesus has conquered them all.

[Chorus]

Do not fear the enemy;
(do not fear the enemy);
do not fear the poverty;
(do not fear the poverty);
do not fear eternity;
(do not fear eternity);
Jesus has conquered them all.

[Chorus x2]

He holds all His little ones safe.

Colin Buchanan, 2004

5. Children's address

[It's time now for 'Sunday Special']

6. Hymn: Hymn: Be strong and courageous

*Be strong and courageous,
the Lord of the Ages
holds all His little ones safe by His side.
Be strong and courageous,
the Lord of the Ages
holds all His little ones safe.*

Do not fear the fire;
do not fear the waters;
do not fear the thunder;
Jesus has conquered them all.

[Chorus]

Do not fear the darkness;
(do not fear the darkness);

7. The Heidelberg Catechism (1563)

Qu. 26: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father for the sake of Christ his Son. I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends me in this vale of tears. He is able to do this because he is almighty God; he desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.

9. Prayer for illumination

10. Scripture Readings: *Psalms 23* p.555, *John 14:1-11* p.1082 NIV 1984

11. Sermon

12. Pastoral Prayer / Intercession

13. Hymn: *There is one Gospel*

There is one Gospel on which I stand
for all eternity.

It is my story, my Father's plan:
the Son has rescued me.

Oh what a Gospel! Oh what a peace!
My highest joy and my deepest need;
Now and forever He is my light;
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel to which I cling;
all else I count as loss.
For there, where justice and mercy meet,
He saved me on the cross.
No more I boast in what I can bring,
no more I carry the weight of sin,
for He has brought me from death to life,
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is one Gospel where hope is found;
the empty tomb still speaks.
For death could not keep my Saviour down;
He lives and I am free.
Now on my Saviour I fix my eyes;
my life is His and His hope is mine!
For He has promised I too will rise;
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

And in this Gospel the church is one;
we do not walk alone.

We have His Spirit as we press on
to lead us safely home.
And when in glory still I will sing
of this old story that rescued me;
praise to my Saviour, the King of life;
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

CityAlight, 2022

14. Notices:

- Please remember the **offering** basket by the door at the end of the service. (For more information on how to give to the mission of the church, please see the 'Giving' page on our website.)
- If you're in primary school and you happened to miss *Going Bananas* - or if your child happened to miss *Going Bananas* - then we would love to give you a **free book**. (These were given out on the last day of *Going Bananas*, and we have some leftover. Speak to Alastair to get one).
- **Saturday Morning Prayer** (27th August), **7:30-8:00am**. Venue: 45 St.Fintan's Park, Sutton, D13. (Home of Michael & Fionnuala Sparksman).

15. The Grace

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus
Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of
the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore, Amen.