



All Together Sunday Worship

21st February 2021

Responding well to warnings

Preparing for Worship (stand if able)

I will exalt you, my God the King;

I will praise your name for ever and ever.

Every day I will praise you

and extol your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

his greatness no one can fathom.

One generation commends your works to another;

they tell of your mighty acts.

They speak of the glorious splendour of your majesty –

and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

They tell of the power of your awesome works –

and I will proclaim your great deeds.

They celebrate your abundant goodness

and joyfully sing of your righteousness. *(From Psalm 145)*

Song:

Reading from the Bible

Mark 11:1-27

¹ As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, ‘Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, “Why are you doing this?” say, “The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.”’

⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, 'What are you doing, untying that colt?' ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

'Hosanna!'

'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!'

¹⁰ 'Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!'

'Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

¹² The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. ¹³ Seeing in the distance a fig-tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ Then he said to the tree, 'May no one ever eat fruit from you again.' And his disciples heard him say it.

¹⁵ On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the benches of those selling doves, ¹⁶ and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. ¹⁷ And as he taught them, he said, 'Is it not written: "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations"? But you have made it "a den of robbers".'

¹⁸ The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.

¹⁹ When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

²⁰ In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig-tree withered from the roots. ²¹ Peter remembered and said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, look! The fig-tree you cursed has withered!'

²² 'Have faith in God,' Jesus answered. ²³ 'Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, "Go, throw yourself into the sea," and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. ²⁵ And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.'

²⁷ They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. ²⁸ 'By what authority are you doing these things?' they asked. 'And who gave you authority to do this?'

²⁹ Jesus replied, 'I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ³⁰ John's baptism – was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!'

³¹ They discussed it among themselves and said, 'If we say, "From heaven," he will ask, "Then why didn't you believe him?" ³² But if we say, "Of human origin" . . .' (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.)

³³ So they answered Jesus, 'We don't know.'

Jesus said, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.'

Reflecting on God's Word

Jesus is the humble Servant King who has all authority.

Jesus stands against corruption and greed.

Taking a stand against corrupt authority with Jesus.

Praying Together

Confessing our Sins

**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.**

Declaring God's Forgiveness

Through faith in Christ alone, the LORD forgives us all our sins, heals the sickness of our souls; the LORD redeems our lives from the grave and crown us with glory and honour. **Amen.**

The Collect for the Sunday before Lent

Lord, you have taught us that whatever we do without love is worth nothing
send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
the true bond of peace and all virtues;
for without love whoever lives is reckoned dead by you.
Grant this for the sake of your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Affirming Our Faith - The 39 Articles of the Church of England

XI. OF THE JUSTIFICATION OF MAN

WE are accounted righteous before God, only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ by Faith, and not for our own works or deservings: Wherefore, that we are justified by Faith only is a most wholesome Doctrine, and very full of comfort, as more largely is expressed in the Homily of Justification.

XII. OF GOOD WORKS

ALBEIT that Good Works, which are the fruits of Faith, and follow after Justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's Judgement; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and do spring out necessarily of a true and lively Faith; insomuch that by them a lively Faith may be as evidently known as a tree discerned by the fruit.

Intercessions

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven
Hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth as is in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For the Kingdom,
the power
And the glory are yours
Now and forever. Amen.

SONG: You Servants of God

Notices

Pronouncing God's Blessing

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created
and by whose love we are redeemed,
guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may stand with Christ against corruption
and live this year under His gentle and loving authority;
To the glory of your majestic name. **Amen.**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and
the love of God and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with us all evermore. Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
in the name of Christ. Amen.

Notices

Covid Rules. Please do not speak with anyone after the service, unless you have organised to exercise, outside, together.

Coming up for Lent: On Ash Wednesday, 17th February, church will be open for a short service to start the season of Lent and start of our lent bible readings and prayers from the book of Zechariah. The service will also be on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube. Zechariah was a prophet at the time God's people came out of 70 years of isolation in Babylon. God's word focused His people on the priority of listening to God, obeying and worshipping him. God also gives hope by promising a righteous and gentle Messiah King who would be pierced to save His people from their sin.

Growing Young Disciples training day. Jesus and anxiety. Supporting children and youth in anxious times. Saturday 6th March from 10:00am to 11:45am with Helen Thorne from Biblical Counselling UK. Ask Helen or Sunita for registration details.

Maintenance work has started on the church buildings and grounds

Maintenance work, including scaffolding, started on Wednesday 27th January and will last for at least seven weeks. Please keep a safe distance when work is in progress. Ensure you only use the main door and side exit. If you see anyone on the scaffolding or acting suspiciously near the construction equipment when the contractor is not on site, please call the police.

Zoom Activities this week:

Zoom Sunday Afternoon Tea - 4pm today

Zoom Small Group Bible Study and Fellowship. Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30pm.

Zoom Cake and Chat. 9-11am on Thursday. Drop in for as long as you want.