



All Together Sunday Worship

7th February 2021

Exercising power like Jesus.

Reflection time before the service begins

Think about your experience of power in your own life and others.
Today we're thinking about power and the abuse of power.

Power is:

Bad

Good

What nations have if they own weapons

What babies have when they cry

What governments have when they make laws

What parents have over children

What teachers have at school

The ability to change something

What gangsters use

The capacity to influence the behaviour of other people

What bullies use

What children have when they want something

Exercised by our choice of words

Preparing for Worship (stand if able)

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth;

Worship the LORD with gladness;

Come before him with joyful songs:

The LORD is God -

it is he who made us and we are His;

We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, And His courts with Praise;

Give thanks to him and praise his holy name.

The LORD is good -

His love endures for ever,

His faithfulness through all generations. Amen. (From Psalm 100)

Song: Only A Holy God

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.**

Reading from the Bible

Mark 10:35-52

³⁵ Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. 'Teacher,' they said, 'we want you to do for us whatever we ask.'

³⁶ 'What do you want me to do for you?' he asked.

³⁷ They replied, 'Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.'

³⁸ 'You don't know what you are asking,' Jesus said. 'Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with?'

³⁹ 'We can,' they answered.

Jesus said to them, 'You will drink the cup I drink and be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared.'

⁴¹ When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them together and said, 'You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³ Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. ⁴⁵



For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

⁴⁶ Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means 'son of Timaeus'), was sitting by the roadside begging. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'



⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him.'

So they called to the blind man, 'Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you.' ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ 'What do you want me to do for you?' Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, 'Rabbi, I want to see.'

⁵² 'Go,' said Jesus, 'your faith has healed you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Reflecting on God's Word

What is power?

How can we abuse power?

Where is power from?

How should the followers of Jesus exercise power?

Praying Together

The Collect for the Fifth Sunday after Epiphany (Sexuagesima)

Heavenly Father, keep your household the church
continually in your true religion
so that we may lean only on the hope of your heavenly grace
And always be defended by your mighty power,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

VII. OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

THE Old Testament is not contrary to the New: for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to Mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and Man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard, which feign that the old Fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the Law given from God by Moses, as touching Ceremonies and Rites, do not bind Christian men, nor the Civil precepts thereof ought of necessity to be received in any commonwealth; yet notwithstanding, no Christian man whatsoever is free from the obedience of the Commandments which are called Moral.

VIII. OF THE THREE CREEDS

THE Three Creeds, Nicene Creed, Athanasius's Creed, and that which is commonly called the Apostles' Creed, ought thoroughly to be received and believed: for they may be proved by most certain warrants of holy Scripture.

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: Rejoice, the LORD is King

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 give ourselves to your service
and live this year in love to one another and to you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 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 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.