



**All Together Sunday Worship**

**7<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**What can you expect  
if you sign up to follow Jesus?**

## Preparing for Worship (stand if able)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Lord is our light and our salvation – whom shall we fear?

**The Lord is our stronghold – of whom shall we be afraid?**

One thing we ask from the Lord, this only do we seek:

**that we may dwell in the house of the Lord**

**all the days of our lives,**

to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he will keep us safe in his dwelling;

**he will hide us in the shelter of his sacred tent**

**and set us high upon a rock.** *(from Psalm 27)*

## Song: Jesus Paid it All

### Reading from the Bible

### Mark 13:1-37

As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!’

<sup>2</sup> ‘Do you see all these great buildings?’ replied Jesus. ‘Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down.’

<sup>3</sup> As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup> ‘Tell us, when will these

things happen? And what will be the sign that they are all about to be fulfilled?’

<sup>5</sup> Jesus said to them: ‘Watch out that no one deceives you. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name, claiming, “I am he,” and will deceive many. <sup>7</sup> When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup> Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in various places, and famines. These are the beginning of birth-pains.

<sup>9</sup> ‘You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them. <sup>10</sup> And the gospel must first be preached to all nations. <sup>11</sup> Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.

<sup>12</sup> ‘Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child. Children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. <sup>13</sup> Everyone will hate you because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.

<sup>14</sup> ‘When you see “the abomination that causes desolation” standing where it does not belong – let the reader understand – then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>15</sup> Let no one on the housetop go down or enter the house to take anything out. <sup>16</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get their cloak. <sup>17</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! <sup>18</sup> Pray that this will not take place in winter, <sup>19</sup> because those will be days of distress unequalled from the beginning, when God created the world, until now – and never to be equalled again.

<sup>20</sup> 'If the Lord had not cut short those days, no one would survive. But for the sake of the elect, whom he has chosen, he has shortened them. <sup>21</sup> At that time if anyone says to you, "Look, here is the Messiah!" or, "Look, there he is!" do not believe it. <sup>22</sup> For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. <sup>23</sup> So be on your guard; I have told you everything in advance.

<sup>24</sup> 'But in those days, following that distress,

“the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light;  
<sup>25</sup> the stars will fall from the sky,  
and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

<sup>26</sup> 'At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup> And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

<sup>28</sup> 'Now learn this lesson from the fig-tree: as soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. <sup>30</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. <sup>31</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

<sup>32</sup> 'But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup> Be on guard! Be alert! You do not know when that time will come. <sup>34</sup> It's like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

<sup>35</sup> 'Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back – whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or at dawn. <sup>36</sup> If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. <sup>37</sup> What I say to you, I say to everyone: "Watch!"'

## **Reflecting on God's Word**

What can you expect if you sign up to follow Jesus?

1. You can expect God to destroy the structures of powerful political and religious systems
2. You can expect human leaders to rise up with messianic complexes
3. You can expect wars and disasters
4. You can expect to stand before rulers
5. You can expect to be betrayed
6. You can expect to be shaken but to be kept safe

# **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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Almighty God,  
consider the heartfelt desires of your servants  
and stretch out the right hand of your majesty  
to defend us against all our enemies,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

## **XV. OF CHRIST ALONE WITHOUT SIN**

CHRIST in the truth of our nature was made like unto us in all things, sin only except, from which he was clearly void, both in his flesh, and in his spirit. He came to be the Lamb without spot, who, by sacrifice of himself once made, should take away the sins of the world, and sin, as Saint John said, was not in him. But all we the rest, although baptized, and born again in Christ, yet offend in many things; and if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

## **XVI. OF SIN AFTER BAPTISM**

NOT every deadly sin willingly committed after Baptism is sin against the Holy Spirit, and unpardonable. Wherefore the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after Baptism. After we have received the Holy Spirit, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and by the grace of God we may arise again, and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned, which say, they can no more sin as long as they live here, or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

## **Intercessions**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Our Father in heaven	As we forgive those who sin
Hallowed be your name	against us
Your kingdom come	Lead us not into temptation
Your will be done	But deliver us from evil
On earth as is in heaven	For the Kingdom,
Give us today our daily bread	the power
Forgive us our sins	And the glory are yours
	Now and forever. Amen.

# **SONG: Christ is mine forever more**

## **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**

**PCC meets Monday 8th March at 7:30pm.** Please pray for good discussions,  
wise decisions and unity in Christ.

**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.