



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PERSHORE

Wholeness and Healing

14th June 2020

The all-important aim in Christian healing is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the reality in our lives which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are.

Welcome and Introduction

We worship together in the name of God

Who knows each of us by name

We worship together in the name of Christ

Whose touch brought healing for forgotten people

We worship together in the name of the Holy Spirit

Who has promised to stay with us, to sustain and restore us.

Prayers of Penitence:

Jesus said, *'Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest.'*

Let us accept His invitation as we turn to him in prayer:

You know us, Lord, we do not have to pretend with you.

In the silence of your love, we bring you all the things that trouble us,
that harm us, that make us feel ashamed or afraid.

Silence

Lord, have mercy on us **Christ, have mercy on us** Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, let us not dwell in the past, nor worry about the future. We cannot undo what is done, we cannot foresee what will come. Let us instead dwell in your peace, love and be loved, heal and be healed. We give the past to you and rest in your forgiveness. We give the future to you and rest in your love. We live in your light, open our eyes that we may see. We live in your love, let your love flow through us, to the fulfilment of your kingdom.

Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from Psalm 42:1-6

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and behold the face of God?
My tears have been my food, day and night,
while people say to me continually, 'Where is your God?'

These things I remember, as I pour out my soul:
how I went with the throng, and led them in procession to the house of God,
with glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving; a multitude keeping festival.
Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember you
from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

For the word of the Lord - Thanks be to God.

Hymn

(tune: Michael – Herbert Norman Howells)

1. All my hope on God is founded
he doth still my trust renew,
me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown, he alone
calls my heart to be his own.

3. God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought:
splendour, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of nought.
Evermore, from his store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
 what with care and toil he buildeth,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power, hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

4. Daily doth th'Almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads us where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand,
joy doth wait on his command.

5. Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call, one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

(Robert Seymour Bridges 1844-1930)

A reading from the Gospel of Luke 11:14-20,23,27-28

Now he was casting out a demon that was mute; when the demon had gone out, the one who had been mute spoke, and the crowds were amazed. But some of them said, 'He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons.' Others, to test him, kept demanding from him a sign from heaven. But he knew what they were thinking and said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself becomes a desert, and house falls on house. If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? —for you say that I cast out the demons by Beelzebul. Now if I cast out the demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I cast out the demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters.

While he was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, 'Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!' But he said, 'Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it!'

For the word of the Lord – Thanks be to God

Litany of Healing

Giving thanks for any healing we or others have received strengthens everyone's faith and hope:

Loving God, we give you thanks for health restored and prayers answered.

Praise to you, O Christ.

And now we turn to God in prayer for all those ongoing situations:

God of compassion and love, we offer you all our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness; healing even when there is no cure; peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces in our lives.

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer pain and ill-health, with their families, friends and those who care for them:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those who suffer in mind and spirit and all those who care for them:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your presence the suffering people of the world and the places where people are experiencing division, injustice and violence:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those struggling to overcome abuse or addiction, those supporting and working with them, and all whose suffering has distanced them from those they love:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

Loving God, we hold in your healing presence those facing bereavement and we also pray for those who have died:

May they know the deep peace of Christ

We pray for all those known to us who have asked for our prayers:

Lord, you know the needs of each one of us, our strengths and our weaknesses, our hopes and disappointments. We commend to your loving care all those we now name in our hearts and who have asked for our prayers. Guard them as the apple of your eye, hide them under the shadow of your wings. Show them your merciful love, in health or in sickness, in life or in death. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen

Words

(John Byrom 1692-1763)

My spirit longs for thee within my troubled breast,
Thought I unworthy be of so divine a guest.
Of so divine a guest unworthy though I be,
Yet has my heart no rest unless it come from thee.
Unless it come from thee, in vain I look around;
In all that I can see no rest is to be found.
No rest is to be found but in thy blessed love:
O let my wish be crowned and send it from above!

Prayer:

O Lord, open my eyes that I may see the needs of others, open my ears that I may hear their cries, open my heart so that I may desire to help. Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the power of the strong; nor afraid to defend the poor because of the power of the rich. Show me where love and hope and faith are needed and use me to bring them to those places. And so open my eyes and my ears that I may be able to do some work of healing and peace for thee. Amen.

The Thanksgiving

For loving the world and knowing our names, **thank you, God**
For your strength that fills us and your love that heals us, **thank you, God**
For your presence here with us today and for your hand that leads us into tomorrow,
thank you, God
Come bless us, hold us, wrestle with us, warm us in your embrace
For we are your people and you are our justice and joy. Amen.

Hymn

(Duke Street – John L Hatton)

Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.

King of our hearts, Christ reigns in us;
kingship with him his servants gain;
with Christ, the Servant-Lord of all,
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.

Prophets of Christ, we hear his word;
he claims our minds to search his ways;
he claims our lips to speak his truth;
he claims our hearts to sing his praise.

We are his Church, he makes us one:
here in one hearth for all to find;
here is one flock, one Shepherd-King;
here is one faith, one heart, one mind.

The Blessing

God of compassion, we bring to you our grieving:
bless us with your healing love.

God of wisdom, we bring to you our learning:
bless us with the energy of change.

God of new beginnings, we bring to you our future;
bless us with your vision of eternal life.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with us now and forever.

Let us go out into the world in the joy and peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**