

# **Christ Church, Ipswich**

*Sunday 31st October 2021*

*Sunday Worship*

*led by Keith Scarff*

## **Welcome**

## **Call to worship**

### **R&S 49          Sing Praise to the Lord**

Sing praise to the Lord!  
Praise him in the height;  
rejoice in his word,  
blest angels of light;  
high heavens, adore him  
by whom you were made,  
and worship before him  
in brightness arrayed.

Sing praise to the Lord,  
all people on earth;  
in tuneful accord  
sing praise for new birth;  
praise him who has brought you  
his grace from above,  
praise him who has taught you  
to sing of his love.

Sing praise to the Lord,  
all things that give sound;  
each jubilant chord  
re-echo around;  
loud organs, his glory  
forth tell in deep tone,  
and, sweet harp, the story  
of what he has done.

Sing praise to the Lord!  
Thanksgiving and song  
to him be outpoured  
all ages along;  
for love in creation,  
for heaven restored,  
for grace of salvation:  
sing praise to the Lord!

H. W. Baker (1821-77) altd.\*

## **Talk to the whole church family**

### **Prayer with young people as they leave**

### **Prayer of approach**

### **The Lord's prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**R&S 267 Immortal love for ever full**

Immortal love for ever full,  
for ever flowing free,  
for ever shared, for ever whole,  
a never-ebbing sea!

Our outward lips confess the name,  
all other names above;  
love only knoweth whence it came  
and comprehendeth love.

We may not climb the heavenly steeps  
to bring the Lord Christ down;  
in vain we search the lowest deeps,  
for him no depths can drown.

But warm, sweet, tender, even yet  
a present help is he;  
and faith has still its Olivet,  
and love its Galilee.

The healing of his seamless dress  
is by our beds of pain;  
we touch him in life's throng and press,  
and we are whole again.

O Lord and Master of us all,  
whate'er our name or sign,  
we own thy sway, we hear thy call,  
we test our lives by thine.

J. G. Whittier (1807-92)

**Old Testament reading 2 Kings 5:1-14***The Healing of Naaman*

5 Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favour with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. <sup>2</sup> Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, 'If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy'. <sup>4</sup> So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. <sup>5</sup> And the king of Aram said, 'Go then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel.'

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. <sup>6</sup> He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, 'When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his leprosy.' <sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, 'Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me.'

<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, 'Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.' <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, 'Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.' <sup>11</sup> But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, 'I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?' He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants approached and said to him, 'Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean"?' <sup>14</sup> So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

**Gospel reading Mark 1:40-45***Jesus Cleanses a Leper*

<sup>40</sup> A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.' <sup>41</sup> Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I do choose. Be made clean!' <sup>42</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. <sup>43</sup> After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, <sup>44</sup> saying to him, 'See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.' <sup>45</sup> But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

## Talk

### R&S 197 Jesus's hands were kind hands

Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all,  
healing pain and sickness, blessing children small,  
washing tired feet and saving those who fall.  
Jesus' hands were kind hands, doing good to all.

Take my hands, Lord Jesus, let them work for you.  
Make them strong and gentle, kind in all I do.  
Let me watch you, Jesus, till I'm gentle too;  
till my hands are kind hands, quick to work for you.

Margaret Cropper (1886-1980)

## Our prayers of intercession

### Offertory prayer

### R&S 329 There's a spirit in the air

There's a spirit in the air,  
telling Christians everywhere:  
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working in our world.'

Lose your shyness, find your tongue,  
tell the world what God has done:  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today.

When believers break the bread,  
when a hungry child is fed,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working in our world.

Still the Spirit gives us light,  
seeing wrong and setting right:  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today.

When a stranger's not alone,  
where the homeless find a home,  
praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise,  
guide our thoughts and change our ways:  
God in Christ has come to stay.  
Live tomorrow's life today.

There's a Spirit in the air,  
calling people everywhere:  
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,  
living, working in our world.'

Brian Wren (1936- )

## The Blessing

### The Grace

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

### Organ voluntary

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