THE HAVEN CHURCH SUNDAY WORSHIP SHEET. June 7th 2020 TRINITY SUNDAY.

The YouTube playlist with videos for the songs can be accessed via the following link: Sunday 07-06-2020

The Throne Room

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I clearly saw the Lord. He was seated on his exalted throne, towering high above me. His long, flowing robe *of splendour* spread throughout the temple. ² Standing above him were the angels of flaming fire, each with six wings: with two wings they covered their faces *in reverence*, with two wings they covered their feet, and with two wings they flew. ³ And one called out to another, saying:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God,

Commander of Angel Armies!

The whole earth is filled with his glory!"

⁴ The thunderous voice of the fiery angels caused the foundations of the thresholds to tremble as the cloud of glory filled the temple! Isaiah 6:1-4

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, thank you that you welcome us into your throne room to join with a multitude of angels in worship you this morning. We come in unity in the Spirit to worship you, one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Thank you Father that you welcome us into your presence. Thank you Jesus that you made the way open to us through your sacrifice at Calvary. Thank you Spirit who connects with our spirit to ignite our worship this morning.

Song: Great is Your Faithfulness (Chris Tomlin)

Song: Behold Him **Song**: God of Grace

Confession

And from you.

Holy and triune God, You alone live in perfect relationship, One God in three persons, Mutual and loving, Ever seeking reconciliation and unity.

You have called us to live in your completion, yet
We confess that our relationships are imperfect and
We are incomplete without you.
We are selfish and greedy.
We are anxious and resenting.
We feel the shame of our foolish behaviour and brokenness.
We have allowed sin to drive us apart from one another

Forgive us and restore us,
Draw us close and bind us together in your mercy.
May we long for wholeness and peace,
May we strive toward gratitude and grace
In the saving name of your son, Jesus Christ,
By the working power of your Holy Spirit.

Amen.

~ written by Katherine Lee Baker, https://www.rca.org/

Song: King of Kings

The Readings.

Isaiah 65:1-3 <u>Judgment and Salvation</u>

65 "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me.

To a nation that did not call on my name, I said, 'Here am I, here am I.'

All day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations—

a people who continually provoke me to my very face, offering sacrifices in gardens and burning incense on altars of brick;

John 4:19-26

¹⁹ "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

Collect for Trinity Sunday

Holy God, faithful and unchanging: enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth, and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love, that we may truly worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

The Message.

(contributed by Mary Rawson)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUsw1anEEEc

The wonder of Worship
A seeking God

This week we are starting a new sermon series looking at worship. So often we think of worship as singing songs or hymns and while that is part of worship, worship is so much more. It is a lifestyle showing reverence and humility towards God.

The dictionary definition of worship is: to have or show a strong feeling of respect and admiration for God or a god (Cambridge dictionary)

The Greek word proskyneo can also be translated as to show homage, show reverence, to kneel down before, to fall down. So, as we can see, this is something so much wider than gathering together for an 'act of worship' on a Sunday morning.

We see in today's readings that God is seeking worshippers. Deep within us God has set a need to worship and if we are not worshipping God then it raises the question of who or what are we worshipping? God has been seeking worshippers since the beginning. In Genesis 3:8-10, when Adam and Eve are hiding in the garden from God after they had eaten the fruit of the tree, we hear God calling to Adam "Where are you?" Nowhere in Genesis does it say that Adam worshipped God as they walked in the cool of the garden together but I have a feeling it doesn't need to. Adam's only response to being with God was worship and as soon as he and Eve ate the fruit of the tree they had given their worship to another.

The passage in Isaiah is God's response to Isaiah's plead for mercy for His people. Oh that you would rend the heaven's and come down cries Isaiah in chapter 64:1. How often have we cried that for our nation? That God would rend the heavens and intervene and draw people back to Him. The passage tells us that God still seeks us even when we don't necessarily seek Him. Because of His grace and His mercy the Lord continues to say 'Here am I'. He demonstrates who He is, He reveals his character to us, but do we have eyes to see? He seeks us not because we have done anything to deserve or earn His love but because of His love for us.

In the passage in John we read that God is seeking those who will worship in Spirit and in truth. Its one of those phrases that runs easily off the tongue but what does it really mean? Jesus is talking to the Samaritan woman at the well and she seems to have started a theological debate as to where to go to worship. From the time of Moses a significant part of worship was sacrifice. The Jews would go to Jerusalem to worship and to offer sacrifices at the time of religious festivals in line with the law given to Moses.

Jesus however came to fulfil the law and the prophets and says that a new era is coming. It was possible to go up to the temple in Jerusalem and offer a sacrifice and obey the letter of the law but not the spirit of the law. It was possible to go and offer a sacrifice but not really know God.

Jesus is saying that God is now looking for those who will come with heart and mind to worship. The place of worship is irrelevant as our bodies are temples (1 Cor 3:16-17 and 1 Cor 6:19). God is Spirit (John 4:24) it is our spirit within us that connects the God's Spirit. It is God's spirit who seeks us and shows as the awesome wonder of who He is that then ignites our worship of Him. Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well, an ordinary everyday place, not in the temple courts. We can worship in our everyday life. There is something very real about the way Jesus encounters and talks to her that reveals to her the truth of who He is.

How do we worship in truth? There are great theological debates about what truth is but Jesus said He is the way the truth and the life. He sought us out and offered himself up at the cross to make the way open for us all to come and to worship. (Hebrews 10:20) We need to be honest with the Lord when we come to worship and bring Him our uncertainties, our hurts and our dreams. When we draw near to God and the perfection of His glory we recognise our own human nature. God is seeking those who will come in humility to live lives of worship to him. To offer their bodies as living sacrifices as their spiritual acts of worship (Romans 12:1)

God is seeking those who will worship in spirit and in truth. Are you ready to be found?

Reflection

When you hear the word 'worship' what are the images and thoughts that come into your mind?

Jesus is the Good shepherd and the parable of the lost sheep teaches us that he is determined as he seeks out the lost. How do you feel about the thought of God seeking you out as a worshipper?

I have heard someone say that we become what we worship. How does your worship impact and change you?

When you worship are you aware of connecting Spirit to spirit with God? If not, as the Holy Spirit to fill you once again for worship.

Song: I will offer up my life

Intercessions

(Contributed by Paul Cooper)

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You are always ready and waiting to hear us when we pray. Help us to be always ready to pray to You. Help us to learn to pray each day regularly and at special times as well. May you be in our minds at the start of each morning as we prepare for the day ahead or in the evening as we think about what the day has brought us. Lord, you are always a listening God, help us to learn to listen when you answer our prayers.

As a regular walker I am always inspired to say a thank you prayer when I see the beauties of Your creation around me. Help us all to be appreciative of the bounties that You provide us. When things are not going well for us help us to turn to You and ask for what we need. (Here add you own prayer for the parts of God's creation you really appreciate.)

Lord, You know what we need before we even ask. So sometimes it is OK to ask quick "Arrow" prayers in our times of greatest need. Sometimes it is appropriate to pray as we do routine tasks like gardening or washing up. Help us to pray to You as often as we can in ways appropriate to the time available.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Father, we thank You that you sent us your Holy Spirit to dwell within us. Help us to recognise the gifts Your Spirit provides us and help us to use these to Your greater glory and to build your church up here in Littleover, in this city, in our country and throughout Your world.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

In these times of Covid 19 crisis may we be open to help one another and to pray for those in need. We thank you that Martin is now recovering from this disease and ask that you will speed his recovery and we ask you to bless all those we know who are recovering. We pray also for those who mourn lost family members, it is especially difficult for them at this time when normal funerals cannot take place. We pray especially for our government that they will be honest with us about what is really happening, particularly in relation to testing, tracking and tracing as lock-down is relaxed. We pray especially for those within our church who are identified as vulnerable, protect them, we ask, in Jesus' name.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Although clapping for key workers has stopped now, we thank you for all the key workers in our own community and we ask you to protect them as they work to provide for the needs of others in the health service, in caring for others and in providing food and essential services.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Lord we thank You for answered prayers. We thank You especially for the safe delivery of David and Joyce's grandchild. (Here add your own prayers of thanksgiving.)

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Lord, we praise You for the Trinity. God, you are omni-present, always there for us and in everything in creation. Jesus you came to be among us in human form, to guide us how to live, to die for us and take away our sins when we pray. Holy spirit, you fill us with the power of God, you are always inside us, give us the confidence to trust in you.

Merciful father

Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Song: Such Love **Song**: The Table

Communion

Link for Zoom meeting

Topic: Haven Communion Service Time: Jun 7, 2020 11:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84269534030?pwd=UFJST0JNRkRmRVJycGovY0dkMDVSUT0

Meeting ID: 842 6953 4030

Password: 012523

Creator of all time and space, In this, our own time and place, we give You thanks and praise for giving us life, and inviting us to share in the history of a people who are blessed by your faithfulness, challenged by your prophets, forgiven by your mercy, and ever surprised by your power to do more, working in us, than we can ask or imagine.

Therefore we join our voices with voices of all You have created all You have loved all You sustain to praise You, saying:

Holy, Holy, God. Heaven and earth are full of your glory: Hosannah in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God. Hosannah in the highest.

We thank You for your life manifest in our brother Jesus --Bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh—
Whose life, death and resurrection reveal You fully: your love for humanity, your desire for human freedom, your passion for justice.

We remember that Jesus, gathered at table with his friends in a time of struggle and fear, took bread, blessed it and gave it to them saying "Take and eat: for this is my body.."

And after supper, Jesus looked forward to your desired day of joy and power;

and took the cup of wine, blessed it and said "Take this, all of you, and drink. This is the cup of the new covenant in my blood. I will share this meal with you again in the reign of God.

Share this bread and this cup in memory of me." Let us proclaim together the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Come now, Holy Spirit of God—
As You were present at creation,
be present now,
and let these gifts of bread and cup
become for us the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing.

As You were sent by Jesus to accompany us on our journey of faith, be present now, and make this community, in receiving this bread and cup, one body in Christ.

And in unity may we join our voices together as we say the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name,
Your Kingdom come,
Your will be done,
On earth as 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 for ever.
Amen.

(Sharing of the bread and the wine)

Almighty and eternal God, you have revealed yourself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and live and reign in the perfect unity of love: hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you in all your ways and evermore rejoice in your eternal glory, who are three Persons yet one God, now and for ever

The Lord God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the holy and undivided Trinity, guard you, save you, and bring you to that heavenly city, where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Closing Song: And can it be

Closing Prayer and Blessing

May the God of love surround us
May the Peace of Christ dwell within us
May the Life of the Spirt flow from us
And may the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit
Be with us all now and for ever
Amen.