



## Stratton Team Ministry

*Seeking, Sharing and Serving God  
Together*

### **Morning Worship- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you  
**and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
**giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ.**

Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:  
**let us sing to God with thankful hearts.**

Open our lips, Lord:  
**and we shall praise your name.**

*cf Colossians 3.16,17*

#### **Hymn-**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you;**  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ light for you  
in the night time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

Richard A. M. Gillard (b. 1953) © 1977 Scripture in Song, a division of Integrity Music/Sovereign Lifestyle Music

We have come together in the name of Christ  
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,  
to hear and receive God's holy word,  
to pray for the needs of the world,  
and to seek the forgiveness of our sins,  
that by the power of the Holy Spirit  
we may give ourselves to the service of God.

### **Prayers of Penitence**

Jesus said:

Before you offer your gift,  
go and be reconciled,  
As brothers and sisters in God's family,  
we come together to ask our Father for forgiveness.

**Lord God,**

**we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.**

**We are sorry and repent.**

**Have mercy on us according to your love.**

**Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.**

**Renew a right spirit within us**

**and restore to us the joy of your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies  
cleanse us from our sins,  
and restore us in his image  
to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Blessed is the Lord,  
**for he has heard the voice of our prayer;**

Therefore shall our hearts dance for joy  
**and in our song will we praise our God.**

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;  
let us pray with one heart and mind.

*Silence is kept.*

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,  
so may the light of your presence, O God,  
set our hearts on fire with love for you;  
now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **Collect**

Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is as small as a mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord

**Amen.**

## **Ephesians 2: 11-end**

<sup>11</sup> You Gentiles by birth—called “the uncircumcised” by the Jews, who call themselves the circumcised (which refers to what men do to their bodies)—remember what you were in the past. <sup>12</sup> At that time you were apart from Christ. You were foreigners and did not belong to God's chosen people. You had no part in the covenants, which were based on God's promises to his people, and you lived in this world without hope and without God. <sup>13</sup> But now, in union with Christ Jesus you, who used to be far away, have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For Christ himself has brought us peace by making Jews and Gentiles one people. With his own body he broke down the wall that separated them and kept them enemies. <sup>15</sup> He abolished the Jewish Law with its commandments and rules, in order to create out of the two races one new people in union with himself, in this way making peace. <sup>16</sup> By his death on the cross Christ destroyed their enmity; by means of the cross he united both races into one body and brought them back to God. <sup>17</sup> So Christ came and preached the Good News of peace to all—to you Gentiles, who were far away from God, and to the Jews, who were near to him. <sup>18</sup> It is through Christ that all of us, Jews and Gentiles, are able to come in the one Spirit into the presence of the Father.

<sup>19</sup> So then, you Gentiles are not foreigners or strangers any longer; you are now citizens together with God's people and members of the family of God. <sup>20</sup> You, too, are built upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, the cornerstone being Christ Jesus himself. <sup>21</sup> He is the one who holds the whole building together and makes it grow into a sacred temple dedicated to the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In union with him you too are being built together with all the others into a place where God lives through his Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I have everything I need.

<sup>2</sup> He lets me rest in fields of green grass  
and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.

<sup>3</sup> He gives me new strength.

He guides me in the right paths,  
as he has promised.

<sup>4</sup> Even if I go through the deepest darkness,  
I will not be afraid, Lord,  
for you are with me.

Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a banquet for me,  
where all my enemies can see me;  
you welcome me as an honoured guest  
and fill my cup to the brim.

<sup>6</sup> I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;  
and your house will be my home as long as I live.

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now:  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

### Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

<sup>30</sup> The apostles returned and met with Jesus, and told him all they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> There were so many people coming and going that Jesus and his disciples didn't even have time to eat. So he said to them, "Let us go off by ourselves to some place where we will be alone and you can rest a while." <sup>32</sup> So they started out in a boat by themselves to a lonely place.

<sup>33</sup> Many people, however, saw them leave and knew at once who they were; so they went from all the towns and ran ahead by land and arrived at the place ahead of Jesus and his disciples.

<sup>34</sup> When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw this large crowd, and his heart was filled with pity for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup> They crossed the lake and came to land at Gennesaret, where they tied up the boat. <sup>54</sup> As they left the boat, people recognized Jesus at once. <sup>55</sup> So they ran throughout the whole region; and wherever they heard he was, they brought to him the sick lying on their mats. <sup>56</sup> And everywhere Jesus went, to villages, towns, or farms, people would take their sick to the marketplaces and beg him to let the sick at least touch the edge of his cloak. And all who touched it were made well.

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

## Hymn-

### **You are beautiful beyond description**

Too marvellous for words  
Too wonderful for comprehension  
Like nothing ever seen or heard  
Who can grasp Your infinite wisdom  
Who can fathom the depths of Your love  
You are beautiful beyond description  
Majesty, enthroned above

*And I stand, I stand in awe of You  
I stand, I stand in awe of You  
Holy God to whom all praise is due  
I stand in awe of You*

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## **The Creed**

**We believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## Prayers of Intercession

### The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

### Hymn-

**Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair,  
Lord, in Your suffering world this is our prayer:  
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace;  
Sunrise to sunset, Your kingdom increase!**

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills,  
Work for the craftsman, trade for their skills;  
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,  
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor, friend of the weak,  
Give us compassion we pray:  
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain;  
Come, change our love from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,  
Cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share;  
Peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to green,  
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams  
Plundered and poisoned — our future, our dreams.  
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed;  
Make us content with the things that we need.

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame  
Until Your justice burns brightly again;  
Until the nations learn of Your ways,  
Seek Your salvation and bring You their praise.

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## **Dismissal**

Eternal God,  
our beginning and our end,  
accompany us in this day's journey.  
Dawn on our darkness,  
open our eyes to praise you for your creation  
and to see the work you set before us today.  
Take us and use us to bring to others the new life you give in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

May the Father from whom every family  
in earth and heaven receives its name  
strengthen you with his Spirit in your inner being,  
so that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ, to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ, Amen**