



**Chet Valley Churches**



**Fathers' Day  
Morning Worship  
19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

# Welcome & Introduction

## Greeting

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

♪ **Song: All My Hope on God is Founded**

**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.**

**Pride of man 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.**

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

**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.**

## Praise

See what love the Father has given us,  
**that we should be called the children of God.**

You are my sons and daughters, this day I have begotten you.  
**See what love the Father has given us.**

As many as received him, to them he gave power to become the children of God.  
**See what love the Father has given us.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**See what love the Father has given us,  
that we should be called the children of God.**

*cf 1 John 3.1*

## 🙏 The Collect

God of truth, help us to keep your law of love and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life in Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen.**

## The Summary of the Law

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord;



and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these your laws in our hearts, we beseech you.**

## Confession

Let us return to the Lord our God and say to him:

**Father, we have sinned against heaven and against you.  
We are not worthy to be called your children.  
We turn to you again. Have mercy on us,  
bring us back to yourself as those who once were dead  
but now have life through Christ our Lord. Amen.**



## Absolution

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Psalm 22:19-28

But you, O LORD, do not be far away! O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
**Deliver my soul from the sword, my life from the power of the dog!**

Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
**I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:**

You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him; stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
**For he did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.**

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
**The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the  
LORD. May your hearts live for ever!**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.  
**For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.**

🎵 **Song:** *Do Not Be Afraid for I Have Redeemed You*

**Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

**When you walk through the waters I'll be with you,  
You will never sink beneath the waves.**

**Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

**When the fire is burning all around you,  
You will never be consumed by the flames.  
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

**When the fear of loneliness is looming,  
Remember I am at your side.  
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

**When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,  
Remember you are precious in my eyes.  
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

**You are mine, oh my child; I am your father,  
And I love you with a perfect love.  
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by your name; you are mine.**

*Do not  
be afraid  
for I am  
with you*

📖 **New Testament Reading:** *Galatians 3:23-29*

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:5-15**

(Jesus said:) ‘...whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

‘When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

‘Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

For the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Talk [Rev David]**

In the UK today we have Fathers’ Day. For some it might be painful or sad; for others it may bring joy and happiness or it may be a day of confusion about the present or past. Whichever emotion is at the forefront of our mind let us try and see the wonderful perfection of fatherliness of God.

“Daddy, daddy, daddy!” I wonder how many times those of us who are fathers will have heard that cry? If we are outside when we hear it then even those who aren’t will no doubt have turned their heads to see where the person shouting is. The cry might be one of pleasure, pain or anxiety - dependant on the tone of the cry. As children, and we all have been at some stage in our lives, even if for some us it is, or seems to be, a long time ago, it is likely that we will have made a similar cry. No doubt the insistence with which we shouted will have reflected the impatience which we felt.

The cry might be because Daddy has come home returning safe perhaps from an adventure or, like the joy expressed by the children towards the end of Edith Nesbit’s classic book: *The Railway Children*, false imprisonment. It might be the cry made when something awful has happened and the poignancy, desperation, expressed in the cry is pitiful and heart-rending.

Or perhaps it is shouted out in the middle of the night when the shadows on the wall look threatening and monster-like! Each of those, and myriad other occasions, will have generated a cry for support and sustenance from “Daddy”.

Often human fathers will be able to respond well, sometimes that might not be the case because human fathers are not perfect. I know I'm not. But there is one who is, to whom we are able to turn whatever the situation. God alone is perfect.

It is easy for us to think of this cry from the point of a young child, for that is usually the situation of which we are aware. But what about adults. What would we think then? Many in this instance would think it childish to utter such a cry; which is why, I suppose, adults often find it difficult to cry out to God in expectation of anything happening. Yet in our anxieties, in our pains we can and should turn to God. To cast our cares on the one who is there for us—who loved us so much that he sent his Son into our world. Who as the gospel writers remind us will give us good things if we only ask in penitence and faith. Let us also remember that we should cry out to our heavenly Father when things are good and we have pleasure in his presence. As our song of praise earlier from John's first letter reminds us it is because of God's love that we can cry out. The Ten Commandments remind us that we should honour our human father, and mother; so, yes, let's do that and in so doing honour our Heavenly Father.

♪ **Song: *Abba, Father Let Me Be***

**Abba, Father, let me be yours and yours alone.  
May my will forever be ever more your own.**

**Never let my heart grow cold; never let me go.  
Abba, Father, let me be yours and yours alone.**



**Affirmation of Faith**

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

🙏 **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.**

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Let us pray to God, our heavenly Father.

**Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

Sovereign Lord, your Son has revealed you as our heavenly Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

**Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

You have made your Church a spiritual family, a household of faith. Through baptism we are reborn as the brothers and sisters of Christ. Deepen our unity and fellowship in him. **Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

You sent your Son to give his life as a ransom for the whole human family. Give justice, peace and racial harmony to the world he died to save.

**Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

You gave your Son a share in the life of a family in Nazareth. Help us to value our families, be thankful for them, and live sensitively within them.

**Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

Your Son drew around him a company of friends. Bring love and joy to all who are alone. Help us all to find in the brothers and sisters of Christ a loving family.

**Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

You are the God of the dead as well as of the living. In confidence we remember those of the household of faith who have gone before us. Bring us with them to the joy of your home in heaven. **Father of all hear your children's prayer.**

Blessed are you Lord our God, creator and redeemer of all;  
to you be glory and praise for ever. **Blessed be God for ever.**

You father us from all eternity giving life to creation  
and pouring your love into all you have made. **Blessed be God for ever.**

From the beginning we have known you as 'Father',  
and all our families have their origin in you. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Through the love of earthly fathers you give us a glimpse of your everlasting love.  
Their guidance and wisdom reveal to us the eternal life of heaven. **Blessed be God for ever.**

In following their example we become more like you, growing into the people  
your heart longs for us to be. **Blessed be God for ever.**

May the love of our fathers draw us ever nearer to you and perfect in us the  
image of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father. Bless all fathers as they care for their families. Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. **Amen.**

🎵 **Hymn: Dear Lord and Father of Mankind**

**Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;  
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind, in purer lives thy service find,  
In deeper reverence, praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,  
The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word  
Rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above,  
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity,  
Interpreted by love!**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness, 'til all our strivings cease;  
Take from our souls the strain and stress,  
And let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats of our desire  
Thy coolness and thy balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm!**

🙏 **Final Prayer**

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, help us, heavenly Father, to trust your love, to serve your purpose, and to praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Sending Out**

The Lord God almighty is our Father: **he loves us and tenderly cares for us.**

The Lord Jesus Christ is our Saviour:  
**he has redeemed us and will defend us to the end.**

The Lord, the Holy Spirit is among us:  
**he will lead us in God's holy way.**

To God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
**be praise and glory today and for ever. Amen.**

