

Welcome
Call to Worship - Psalm 29: 1-4
Song – Longing for Light, we wait in darkness (CH4 543) - video https://youtu.be/kt3Qc04uIOM
Bible verse – Matthew 3: 13-17 [NJB]
Song – Come now, O Prince of peace (CH4 275) - video
Bible Verse - Isaiah 42: 1-9 [NRSV]
Song – Before the throne of God above (MP 975)- hymnal, piano https://youtu.be/fAJyGZlbeTg
Prayer & Lord's prayer
Song – Spirit of the living God (CH4 619/ MP 613) – hymnal, piano
Reflection -
Offering- I'm giving you my heart (Surrender) - video https://youtu.be/NIZygKa_x9Q
Prayer for offering and others – the maze
Song – How Great Thou Art (O Lord, my God) (JP 5860)- video
Benediction
Grace
Close

Theme: Habit vs Ritual

Matthew 3: 13-17 [The New Jerusalem Bible translation]

13. Then Jesus appeared: he came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John.

14. John tried to dissuade him, with the words, "It is I who need baptism from you, and yet you come to me!"

15. But Jesus replied, "Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that uprightness demands." Then John gave in to him.

16. And when Jesus had been baptised he at once came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him.

17. And suddenly there was a voice from heaven, "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him."

Sunday 8th Jan 2023

Welcome

Call to Worship - Psalm 29: 1-4

- ¹ Honour the LORD, you heavenly beings^{ial};
honour the LORD for his glory and strength.
² Honour the LORD for the glory of his name.
Worship the LORD in the splendour of his holiness.
- ³ The voice of the LORD echoes above the sea.
The God of glory thunders.
The LORD thunders over the mighty sea.
- ⁴ The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

Song - Longing for Light, we wait in darkness (CH4 543)

Bible verse (on screen)

Matthew 3: 13-17 [The New Jerusalem Bible translation]

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Song – Come now, O Prince of peace (CH4 275)

Bible Verse - Isaiah 42: 1-9 [NRSV]

The Servant, a Light to the Nations

- 42** Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
² He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break,

and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,^[a]
a light to the nations,

⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the LORD, that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Song - Before the throne of God above (MP 975)

Prayer & Lord's prayer

May Your star pause over this place of worship,
illuminating Your truth and justice.

Confront us anew with Your call
to look for power in lowly places
and to bring our gifts to worship.

You, who are long gone from the stable,
but present in every place and time –
God with us.

Our Father.....

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory,
For ever.

Amen

Song - Spirit of the living God (CH4 619/ MP 613)

Reflection

Offering - I'm giving you my heart (Surrender)

https://youtu.be/NIZygKa_x9Q

Prayers for offering and for others – the maze



Sit quietly and pray: I place myself in your presence O Lord, my God.

Trace your finger through the labyrinth, reflect and pray on people in our community, where justice is needed close to home and far away, someone you want God to comfort, a bible verse.

In the centre, pause and pray: ...you will reveal the path of life to me, give me unbounded joy in Your presence... Psalm 16:1

Trace your finger back through the labyrinth, continue your reflections and pray for anything else that comes to mind.

When exiting the labyrinth pray: Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen.

Song – How great thou art (O Lord, my God) (JP 5860)

Benediction

Go now as a light to the nations.
Honour the Lord;
preach what you know of the risen Christ,
and fulfil all righteousness.

And may God strengthen you and bless you with peace;
May Christ Jesus bring forth justice for you and among you;
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you
and affirm you as God's beloved ones.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Grace