

**Park Road Baptist Church: 5 July 2020, by zoom; Order of Service.**

**On the way to Gaza.**

**Introduction:** This full order of service is being sent out so that those who are unable to join in with the 'zoom service' can use it as and when desired at home. If the hymns are not accessible, a Bible passage is offered for reflection.

**Call to worship:**

Let us come into God's presence.

We will light a light in the name of the Maker,  
in the name of the Son,  
and in the name of the Spirit;

God above us, God beside us, God beneath us,  
the beginning and the end, the everlasting one.

O, sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things.

His right hand and his holy arm  
have given him the victory.

He has remembered his steadfastness and faithfulness  
and the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. (Ps. 98.1+3)

**Prayers for worship.**

Living God, Creator of heaven and earth, designer of light and life, colour and sound, instigator of awe and wonder, beauty and mystery;

Living God, creator, provider, protector and sustainer, maker of all that is seen and unseen, we bow before you, as children of your creation and benefactors of your goodness, and recipient of your grace and as guardians of your world.

God, the one to whom we pray, through whom we pray, who evokes our prayer, with all your Church we respond to your call; with creation, we offer our praise; for you are our God, Creator, Saviour, Spirit; there is no other.

By your love, take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to chose to serve you and to serve one another.

Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.

We believe that God comes and sets us free. Hallelujah! Amen.

**Hymn: BPW 588.** Blessed are the pure in heart. (Matthew 5. 3-11)

**Readings:** (Clive and Florence)

Old Testament – Isaiah 49. 1-7.

God declares, through the prophet of the Exile, that his servant will not only bring together the scattered Israelites into Jerusalem, but also all the nations of the earth.

New Testament – Acts 8. 26-40.

Directed by the Spirit, Philip encounters the Ethiopian eunuch.

**Reflection.** On the way to Gaza.

**Hymn: BPW 644.** Your Kingdom come, O God. (Micah 4. 1-5)

**Prayers:** (Michael Kennerly)

**Thanksgiving.**

Almighty Father, creator in whom we live and move and have our being, we come with our gratitude and praise for all the generosity of your bounty:

For the past week.

For those on whom we depend.

For the benefits we enjoy from day to day.

For the fellowship of faith, here in our own place, and across the world.

**Intercessions.**

Father and Saviour, we dare to bring before you our supplications and intercessions in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord:

For those in positions of responsibility at this difficult time, who affect our lives day by day.

For those who manage our day to day lives.

For those who suffer.

For peace and justice and the overcoming of divisions and enmity.

For ourselves, that we may indeed be ambassadors for the Kingdom.

**The Lord's Prayer.**

**Hymn: BPW 2.** All creatures that on earth do dwell. (Psalm 100)

**Dismissal.**

May the blessing of the living god be upon you this day.

In every day and in every way may you know his overshadowing around you, with you and for you.

May the blessing, love and affection of heaven be toward you.