10am Sunday Morning Service 02T2 8 October 2023

Welcome

Call to Worship

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever! God's steadfast love endures forever! The Lord is our strength and might; today, the Lord has become our salvation! The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is God's handiwork, and it is marvelous in our eyes! This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Song: Forever

Give thanks to the Lord Our God and King His love endures forever For He is good He is above all things His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise

With a mighty hand And an outstretched arm His love endures forever For the life that's been reborn His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise Sing praise sing praise

Forever God is faithful, Forever God is strong Forever God is with us, Forever forever

From the rising to the setting sun His love endures forever

And by the grace of God we will carry on His love endures forever Sing praise sing praise

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Song: Above All

Above all powers, above all kings, Above all nature and all created things Above all wisdom and all the ways of man You were here before the world began Above all kingdoms, above all thrones Above all wonders the world has ever known Above all wealth and treasures of the earth There's no way to measure what you're worth

Crucified, laid behind the stone, You lived to die, rejected and alone Like a rose trampled on the ground You took the fall, and thought of me, Above all

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Multi-age

Prayer for Children

Bible Reading: 1 Kings 18:16-40 (Jacky R)

¹⁶ So Obadiah went to meet Ahab and told him, and Ahab went to meet Elijah. ¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" ¹⁸ "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the LORD's commands and have followed the Baals. ¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." ²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. ²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing. ²² Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. ²³ Get two bulls for us. Let Baal's prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. ²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire—he is God." Then all the people said, "What you say is good." ²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." ²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. ²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention. ³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which had been torn down. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood." ³⁴ "Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. ³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah

stepped forward and prayed: "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." ³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. ³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD—he is God! The LORD—he is God!" ⁴⁰ Then Elijah commanded them, "Seize the prophets of Baal. Don't let anyone get away!" They seized them, and Elijah had them brought down to the Kishon Valley and slaughtered there.

Message

Offering Song: Cornerstone

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly trust in Jesus' Name, But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

Christ alone cornerstone Weak made strong in the Saviour's love Through the storm He is Lord, Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace In every high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil, My anchor holds within the veil When He shall come with trumpet sound Oh may I then in Him be found Dressed in His righteousness alone Faultless stand before the throne, Faultless stand before the throne

Thanks for the Offering

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be God forever.

The Confession

Heavenly Father, You have loved us with an everlasting love, But we have broken your holy laws And have left undone what we ought to have done. We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them. For the sake of your Son who died for us, Forgive us, cleanse us and change us. By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

God is slow to anger and full of compassion, Forgiving all who humbly repent And trust in his Son as Saviour and Lord God therefore forgives us in Christ Jesus, In whom there is no condemnation. Amen.

Prayers for the Church and our World (Kate)

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil For the kingdom, the power and the glory Are yours now and forever. Amen. The Great Thanksgiving (Jaq and ... to assist)
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, faithful God, always and everywhere, for with your only begotten Son, and life giving Spirit, you are the one true God from everlasting to everlasting. At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing a universe of beauty and splendour, bringing light from darkness and order from chaos. You formed us, male and female, in your image and endowed us with creative power.

We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.

You called us by name and searched us out, making a covenant of mercy, giving law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you, joining with your faithful people of every time and place, singing the eternal song:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

When the fullness of time was come, you sent your Son to be born of Mary. Bright image of your glory, he learnt obedience to you in all things, even to death on a cross, breaking the power of evil, freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight. You raised him from death, exalting him to glory, and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends, his companions on the way.

While at the table he took bread, blessed, and broke it, and giving it to them, said: 'Take eat; this is my body'.

He took the cup of wine, and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said, 'This is my blood of the covenant, Which is poured out for many. Do this in remembrance of me'.

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

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,

we remember his life of obedience to you, his suffering and death, his resurrection and exaltation,

and his promise to be with us for ever. With this bread and this cup we celebrate his saving death until he comes.

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,

and send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration

that all who may eat or drink at this table may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people, may we proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord,

through whom, with whom and in whom,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory is yours, eternal God, now and for ever.

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer

Bountiful God, at this table you graciously feed us With the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament be strengthened in your service. We who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth in our lives; we who have seen the greatness of your love See you face to face in your kingdom And come to worship you with all your saints for ever.

Father,

we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Notices

Song: How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds your hands have made I see the stars I hear the mighty thunder Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed

Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee How great Thou art, how great Thou art Then sings my soul my Savior God to Thee How great Thou art how great Thou art

When through the woods and forest glades I wander And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze

And when I think that God His Son not sparing Sent Him to die I scarce can take it in That on the Cross my burden gladly bearing He bled and died to take away my sin

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation And take me home what joy shall fill my heart Then shall I bow in humble adoration And there proclaim my God how great Thou art

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Blessing