

Sunday Service

9am & 11am | Sunday, January 7th 2024 | First Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome: Matthew Lawes (Curate)

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song: Hope Of The Nations

Jesus, hope of the nations,
Jesus, comfort for all who mourn,
You are the source
of heaven's hope on earth.
Jesus, light in the darkness,
Jesus, truth in each circumstance,
You are the source
of heaven's light on earth.

In history, You lived and died,
You broke the chains, You rose to life.

**You are the Hope, living in us,
You are the Rock, in whom we trust.
You are the Light,
shining for all the world to see.
You rose from the dead, conquering
fear,
our Prince of Peace, drawing us near.
Jesus, our Hope,
living for all who will receive,
Lord, we believe.**

Brian Doerksen ©2002 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Confession

Most merciful Father, our Creator and Judge, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart; and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We earnestly repent, and are truly sorry for all our sins. For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake forgive us, and strengthen us to serve and obey you in lives wholly renewed by your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers: 9am Matthew Lawes
11am Richard Clayton

All - Age slot

Song: It's A Light And A Hammer

Hold the power of the universe in your hand.
Hold the words that shaped the sky and sea and land.
The King has given words to us, to tell us what he's like:
open up your ears and let his Spirit strike.

**It's a light and a hammer,
it's a fire and a sword;
it's the voice of our Father;
the word of the Lord.
The blade of the Spirit can cut to the soul,
and God will use it to make us whole.**

Hear the news of the promised king who came to save.
Hear the news of Jesus who rose from the grave.
Our King has come to live on earth and rescue us from sin:
open up your mind and let his Spirit in.

Know the name of Jesus Christ that makes us new.
Know the Son of God, the Word whose word is true.
Our King has spoken to us, so there is no place for pride:
he gives hearts of flesh and changes us inside.

Dan Adams and Gareth Loh ©2016 Dan Adams and Gareth Loh

Children leave for their groups

Church Family News

Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11 (p.724)
9am Graham Wilson
11am Janet Twigg

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon: 'Comfort for the weary: Certain comfort'

Pete Scamman (Associate Vicar)

Song: The Lord's My Shepherd (Psalm 23)

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.

**And I will trust in You alone.
And I will trust in You alone,
for Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.**

I will trust, I will trust in You,
I will trust, I will trust in You,
endless mercy follows me,
goodness will lead me home.

He guides my ways in righteousness,
and He anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
for you are with me, and your rod and staff,
are the comfort I need to know.

Stuart Townend ©1996 Thankyou Music

Livestream ends

Communion

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Take Communion

Song During Communion:

Song: Turn Your Eyes

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in His wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely
dim,
in the light of His glory and grace.

Turn your eyes to the hillside
where justice and mercy embrace.
There the Son of God gave His life for us,
and our measureless debt was erased.

Jesus, to You we lift our eyes.
Jesus, our glory and our prize.

We adore You, behold You, our Saviour ever
true.
Oh Jesus, we turn our eyes to You.

Turn your eyes to the morning
and see Christ the lion awake.
What a glorious dawn, fear of death is gone,
for we carry His life in our veins.

Turn your eyes to the heavens,
our King will return for His own.
Every knee will bow, every tongue will shout
"All glory to Jesus alone!"

Helen H. Lemmel, George Romanacce, Nic Trout, Nathan Stiff, Kevin
Winebarger©2019 New Spring, Sovereign Grace Worship

Song: There Is A Hope

There is a hope that burns within my heart,
that gives me strength for ev'ry passing day;
a glimpse of glory now revealed in
meagre part,
yet drives all doubt away;
I stand in Christ, with sins forgiv'n;
and Christ in me, the hope of heav'n!
My highest calling and my deepest joy,
to make His will my home.

There is a hope that lifts my weary head,
a consolation strong against despair,
that when the world has plunged me in
its deepest pit,
I find the Saviour there!
Through present sufferings, future's fear,
He whispers 'courage' in my ear,
for I am safe in everlasting arms,
and they will lead me home.

Cont'd...

There is a hope that stands the test of time,
that lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning
grave,
to see the matchless beauty of a day divine
when I behold His face!

When sufferings cease and sorrows die,
and every longing satisfied.
Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul,
for I am truly home.

Mark Edwards and Stuart Townend ©2007 Thankyou Music

Response Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

Hymn: I Cannot Tell

I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship,
should set his love upon the sons of men,
or why, as Shepherd, he should seek
the wanderers,
to bring them back, they know not how nor
when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary,
when Bethlehem's manger was his only
home,
and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world,
has come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
as with his peace he graced this place of
tears,
or how his heart upon the Cross was broken,
the crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-
hearted,
and stays our sin, and calms our lurking
fear,
and lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is
here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
how he will claim his earthly heritage,
how satisfy the needs and aspirations
of East and West, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
and he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
and some glad day his sun shall shine in
splendour
when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is
known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
when, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
or who can say how great the jubilation
when all our hearts with love for him are
filled.
But this I know, the skies will sound his
praises,
ten thousand, thousand human voices sing,
and earth to heaven, and heaven to earth,
will answer:
at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world,
is King!

William Young Fullerton
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Closing Prayer