

9 May 2021

by John Wilson

Call to Worship based on Psalm 98 taken from Roots Adult and All Age 10th May 2015

Sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done marvellous things. Sing to the Lord a song of praise, for he is faithful and just. Sing to the Lord a song of joy, for he has remembered his love for us. Amen.

Hymn – Singing the Faith 18

Music here

Be Still and know that I am God
I am the Lord who saves and heals
I am the Lord who saves and heals

In you, O Lord, do I put my trust
In you, O Lord, do I put my trust
In you, O Lord, do I put my trust
Anonymous based on Psalm 46 verses 10 – 11

Prayers

Eternal God, we rejoice at your abiding presence with us, we open our hearts and invite you to dwell within us, we reach out to others in your strength and in your love. We lay down our needs and offer our lives in your service and to your glory. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Taken from Roots Adult and All Age 10th May 2015

Lord Jesus, we come before you, just as we are, in our weakness and with our frailties, with our joys and our sorrows. We come to obey your life – giving commands. We come to learn to love. Amen.

Lord, if we are honest with ourselves we confess that so often we do not reflect your love in our lives. So often we are selfish. So often we ignore the needs of others, too busy naming our own needs and wants to hear the voices of those we could help and serve. Lord of love and forgiveness we come before you now to ask for and to receive your forgiveness for those times when we have lived selfishly, ignoring the needs of others and failing to show your love in our lives. Loving and Forgiving God, as we receive your forgiveness help us to know your love and help us to show your love this day and every day. **Amen.**

Say The Lord's Prayer

Bible Reading – John 15 verses 9 - 17

9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. 17 This is my command: Love each other".

Talk / Reflection

When things are going well we feel elated. When hardships come we may sink into depression. True joy transcends these circumstances and comes from a consistent relationship with Jesus as our lives are intertwined with his. The joy of living with Jesus Christ daily keeps us levelheaded no matter how high or low our circumstances.

We are to love one another as Jesus loved us and he loved us enough to give his life for us. How can we show Christ's love to others through listening, helping, encouraging, giving?

Jesus made the first choice – to love and to die for us, to offer us eternal life. We make the next choice – to accept or reject his offer.

Amen

Intercessions

Pray that the coronavirus vaccine rollout will continue to go well

Give thanks for all those caring for those in hospital with coronavirus.

Pray for our churches and church members as we hope to start worshipping in our buildings soon

As our churches open for Worship again pray that we may be open to learn from this past year and be open to the new things and new ways of worshipping that God may have for us.

Hymn - StF 503 - Love Divine

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Music here

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive: suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley [1707 – 1788]

Blessing taken from Roots Adult and All age 10th May 2015

Go and be empowered by the commandment to love, encouraged in your ability to love and blessed in your receiving of love, day by day. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**