

10:30 MORNING SERVICE (IN PLACE OF HOLY COMMUNION DURING NATIONAL LOCKDOWN)

2ND MAY 2021 (5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER)

Revd Chris Nicholls, Leader & Preacher

*Nelleke Roeleveld & Berry Wiersum, singers; Fred Edelen, cello;
James Hewitt, violin*

PRELUDE *Allegro, from Sonata 1, Speelstuckken, David Peterson. Played by Fred Edelen and James Hewitt*

(OPENING HYMN) 538 O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

2 O let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.

3 O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

4 O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;

and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.

5 O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.

*(INVOCATION) In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the
Holy Spirit*

Amen

(GREETING)

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia

(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.**

(COMMANDMENTS/COMFORTABLE WORDS/BEATITUDES)

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

The first commandment is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is the only Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.'

The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

(INVITATION TO CONFESSION)

Christ died to sin once for all, and now he lives to God.

Let us renew our resolve to have done with all that is evil and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

**(CONFESSION) Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness, through our own
deliberate fault.**

We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.**

(ABSOLUTION)

*Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon
you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and
strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen

(GLORIA) setting by Hopper

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

*For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.*

(COLLECT)

*Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen*

(PSALM) Psalm 22: 25-31 *double chant by G.M. Garrett*

25. From you comes my praise in the great ' congre' gation ;
I will perform my vows in the ' presence of ' those that ' fear you.
26. The poor shall ' eat and be ' satisfied ;
those who seek the Lord shall praise him; their ' hearts shall ' live
for ' ever.
27. All the ends of the earth shall remember and ' turn to the ' Lord ;
and all the families of the ' nations shall ' bow be' fore him.
28. For the kingdom ' is the ' Lord's ;
and he ' rules ' over the ' nations.
29. How can those who sleep in the earth bow ' down in ' worship ;
or those who go down to the ' dust ' kneel be' fore him?
30. He has saved my life for himself; my des' cendants shall ' serve him
;
this shall be told of the Lord for ' gene' rations to ' come.
31. They shall come and make known his salvation, to a people ' yet
un' born ;
declaring that ' he, the ' Lord, has ' done it.

*Glory to the Father and ' to the ' Son ;
and ' to the ' Holy ' Spirit.*

*As it was in the beg' inning is ' now ;
and shall be for ' ever. ' A ' men.*

(1ST READING) Acts 8:26-40

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Go south to the road – the desert road – that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' ²⁷ So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian^[a] eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means 'queen of the Ethiopians'). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, ²⁸ and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. ²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, 'Go to that chariot and stay near it.'

³⁰ Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. 'Do you understand what you are reading?' Philip asked.

³¹ 'How can I,' he said, 'unless someone explains it to me?' So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

³² This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

'He was led like a sheep to the slaughter,
and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.
Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.'^[b]

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, 'Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?' ³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

³⁶ As they travelled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptised?' ³⁸ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptised him.

³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and travelled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

(GOSPEL HYMN) "You are the vine"

You are the Vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in You.

You are the Vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in You.

<i>Men:</i> Then we'll grow;	<i>Women: then we'll grow</i>
in Your love;	<i>in Your love</i>
then we'll go	<i>then we'll go</i>
in Your name	<i>in Your name</i>
that the world	<i>that the world</i>
will surely know	<i>will surely know</i>

All: that You have power to heal and to save.

You are the Vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in You.

You are the Vine, we are the branches, keep us abiding in You.

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(GOSPEL) JOHN 15:1-8

Hear the Gospel of the Lord according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

¹ I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes^[a] so that it will be even more fruitful. ³ You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

(SERMON)

Revd. Chris Nicholls

(CHOIR ANTHEM) "Die Hoffnung wart der rechten Zeit" *final Chorale*
from Cantata BWV 86, J.S. Bach

Die Hoffnung wart' der rechten Zeit,
Was Gottes Wort zusaget,
Wenn das geschehen soll zur Freud,
Setzt Gott kein g'wisse Tage.
Er weiß wohl, wenn's am besten ist,
Und braucht an uns kein arge List;
Des solln wir ihm vertrauen.

(CREED) *Let us reaffirm our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
we believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and
glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

(PEACE) Please stand for the peace.

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

(INTERCESSIONS)

(THANKSGIVING)

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, your servants, give you our hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And we ask you, give us that due sense of all your mercy, that our hearts may be completely thankful, and that we show your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking with you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

(LORD'S PRAYER)

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

(OFFERTORY) "Christ lag in Todesbanden"

1. Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands for our offenses given;
but now at God's right hand he stands and brings us life from heaven;
therefore let us joyful be, and sing to God right thankfully
loud songs of Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended;
the victory remained with life, the reign of death was ended;
stripped of power nor more he reigns, an empty form alone remains;
his sting is lost forever! Alleluia!

3. So let us keep the festival to which the Lord invites us;
Christ is himself the joy of all, the sun that warms and lights us;
by his grace he doth impart eternal sunshine to the heart;
the night of sin is ended! Alleluia!

4. Then let us feast this holy day on the true bread of heaven;
the word of grace hath purged away the old and wicked leaven;
Christ alone our souls will feed, he is our meat and drink indeed;
faith lives upon no other! Alleluia!

(NOTICES)

(CLOSING HYMN) CP 455 – Guide me, O thou Great Redeemer

1 Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

(BLESSING) *May the God of peace
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
make us perfect in every good work to do his will;
and together we pray that the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
would be among us and remain with us always.*

Amen.

(DISMISSAL) *We are raised to new life with Christ.
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

(POSTLUDE) Allemanda, from Sonata 1, Speelstuckken,
David Peterson. Played by Fred Edelen and James
Hewitt