

SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2020.

CALL TO WORSHIP.

Gracious God, during a busy day

We pause to build our lives around you.

Amid a busy life

We pause to build our lives around you.

Amid the pain that we carry in our hearts,

We pause to build our lives around you.

Amid our joyful celebration of the gift of life,

We pause to build our lives around you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

HYMN:- StF 611. Brother, sister, let me serve you.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;

let me be as Christ to you;

pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,

and companions on the road;

we are here to help each other

walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you

in the night-time of your fear;

I will hold my hand out to you,

speaking the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;

when you laugh I'll laugh with you;

I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Richard /a M Gillard (b.1953).

PRAYERS.

God of all creation guide us to build our lives on you,
Help us to make you the cornerstone upon which all the rest of our lives lean for support.

God of our salvation guide us to build our lives on you,
So that we may live gracefully as a reflection of what you have given us.

God of the Spirit guide us to build our lives on you,
Fan the flames of our faith so that we may passionately share your love with those with whom we
live and work and play.

Gracious Lord and God, we know that we will remain less than the whole persons you have called us
to be in Christ Jesus until we acknowledge our sins to you, so we bow before you and pray:

We confess that we have tried to run away and hide from you. We constantly deceive ourselves into
thinking that we can live without you.

We have made idols of our achievements. We have treated other persons as though they did not
bear your image.

We have failed to enfold and include all persons within the outstretched and open arms of Jesus
Christ, our Saviour.

We have left undone those deeds of loving-kindness and Godly-justice that you want us to pursue in
your name.

Bring your Spirit upon us in a gracious, healing way. Make us agents of reconciliation as we live within your holy presence.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

1ST READING:- Exodus 33:12-23

2ND READING:- 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10/

MESSAGE.

HYMN:- StF 503. Love divine, all loves excelling.

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.

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,
'til we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

Everlasting God, you want us to be a generous people offering our time, talents, and money to your service.

Guard us, Lord, from holding back when we should be letting go and honouring you as Lord of all we have.

Holy God, we thank you for your creation and remember that you entrusted it to our care as stewards.

Give us wisdom to manage our money and personal finances well and to practice heartfelt generosity.

As we live each day, help us to treat our world fairly whilst receiving its goodness gratefully.

Help us to remember that you are the giver of all we have and to put aside pride of ownership.

Father God, your word promises all the material things that we need to live but we find it hard to trust.

We pray now for all those who struggle with the burden of personal debt: for those too frightened to face the problem, for couples who cannot talk about it, for children who cannot understand but live with the worry.

We pray also for those who are consumed by money worries, anxious about jobs or homes or the future; those who feel they have lost control of money and cannot cope.

Loving God, we pray for all who bear the burdens of pain, bereavement, anxiety and depression.

We pray for those whose illness stems from financial problems.

We pray that they may have an awareness of your presence and an understanding that you are bearing those burdens with them and always working towards their healing and wholeness.

Merciful God, we remember with thankfulness and gratitude all those who have left their mark on our lives by giving us love and laughter, but who have now gone before us to be with Christ.

We hold them in our hearts, knowing that you, Lord, hold them in yours.

Gracious God, you have called and chosen us to spread the Good News of your son to the world.

As we begin another week help us to give the message of Christ's love to all we meet, at home, at work, in our leisure time and in our community.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

AMEN.

HYMN:- StF 345. And can it be.

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviours blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis mystery all: the Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above -
so free, so infinite his grace -

emptied Himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me!

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quickening ray -
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light,
my chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

WE SHARE THE GRACE TOGETHER.