

CONFERENCE CALL SERVICE 1045hrs 18th
APRIL 2021 3rd SUNDAY IN EASTER
SERVICE SHEET

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818 – 1895)
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Words Edition

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come near to God and he will come near to you (James 4:8)

Lord God, we come to worship you this morning with your command to draw near to you ringing in our ears.

It sounds so obvious Lord, so simple, but we find it so difficult.

A thousand trivial things get in the way – things that we just have to get done, shopping, what there is to eat, to drink, what's on the TV or radio, friends to meet, gossip to share, our hobbies, or even that annoying tickle we have in the small of our back.

Help us this morning Lord to forget all these and to bring you our whole attention so that we can hear you speaking to us.

And when we have heard, help us to take it in, carry it with us and be active with you in our world. **Amen**

Hymn StF250 Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult
of our life's wild restless, sea;
day by day his sweet voice
sounding,
Saying: 'Christian, follow me.'

As of old apostles heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and
kindred,
leaving all for his dear sake.

Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying: 'Christian, love me more.'

In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and
pleasures:
'Christian, love me more than
these.'

Jesus calls us! By your mercies,
Saviour, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

PRAYERS

Presence

Lord, we come into your presence,
to be aware of you with us.

You are always aware of us,
always sensitive to our needs and joys.

You invite us to be with you,
to have a place near you.

Your presence is joy, light, comfort,
your nearness is holy, awesome, wonder.

In the play of sunlight through rainbows,
in the sounds of music and laughter,
in the touch of friends and loved ones,
in the sweet perfume of blossom,
in the taste of bread and wine,
your presence is known.

But also in the warm dark,
in the silence, in the solitude,
in the scent of fear,
in the sourness of tears,
you are with us, your presence surrounds us.

As we come before you,
we realise our faults,
we remember our sins,
we feel remorse for our selfishness,
we repent and feel ashamed.

You welcome us,
you greet us with a smile,
you forgive and renew,
you give us new hope, new life.
You love us into your presence.
We bless and thank you.
We praise and adore you.
We enjoy being with you,
and with each other,
in the name, the spirit
and the presence of Jesus. **Amen**

God of life and love,
your Son made himself known to your disciples
in the breaking of bread.
Open our eyes that we may see him
in his redeeming work,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God, now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER (modern version from StF)
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**

READINGS

John 21: 1 - 19

Acts 9: 1 – 20

MESSAGE

HYMN StF 673

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let My love be shown,
will you let My name be known,
will you let My life be grown in you,
and you in Me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let Me answer prayer
in you and you in Me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in Me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and
sound
in you and you in me?

Lord, Your summons echoes true

*when You but call my name.
Let me turn and follow You
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps
show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

O Christ, our Lord,
as in times past, not all the sick and suffering
found their own way to your side,
but had to have their hands taken or their bodies
carried,
or their names mentioned;
so we, confident of your goodness, bring others to you.

As in times past,
you looked at the faith of friends
and let peace and healing be known,
look on our faith, even our little faith
and let your kingdom come.

We name before you those for whom pain is the
greatest problem;
who are remembered more for their distress than for
their potential;
who at night cry, 'I wish to God it were morning.'
and in the morning cry, 'I wish to God it were night.'
Bring healing and peace.

We name before you
those whose problem is not physical;
those who are haunted by nightmares of their past
or the spectres of their future,
those whose minds are shackled to neuroses,
depression and fears,
who do not know what is wrong and do not know what
to pray.....
Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

We name before you
those in whose experience light has turned to
darkness,
as the end of a life
or the breaking of a relationship which leaves them
stunned in their souls
and silent in their conversation,
not knowing where to turn or who to turn to
or whether their life has purpose any more.....
Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace.

And others whose troubles we do not know
or whose names we would not say aloud,
we mention now in the silence which you understand
....

Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all,
bring healing, bring peace

And we bring before you the world, created for us.
We have not been good stewards.
We have reaped where we have not sown.
We have grabbed when we should have shared
We have hated when we needed to love,
fought when we needed to talked.
We have failed at every step for your kingdom to
come.
Lord Jesus Christ we ask that we and our leaders find
the courage and strength
To turn around before it is too late
Lord Jesus Christ, lover of all,
Bring healing and peace.

HYMN StF 313 *Thine be the glory*

Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won ;
angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay :

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb ;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom ;
let the Church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth,
death hath lost its sting :

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.*

No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of Life ;
life is naught without thee :
aid us in our strife ;
make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love ;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above :

*Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.*

• **BLESSING**

**THE KEEPING OF
CHRIST**

I set the keeping of Christ
about you;
I send the guarding of God
with you
to possess you, to protect
you,
to accompany you
on all your paths,
through trouble, through
danger, through loss.
And I set the dancing of the
Spirit around you
to comfort and gladden and
inspire you,
each day, each night,
each night, each day.

Kate

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• **SHARE THE GRACE**

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