

SERVICE SHEET FOR SUNDAY 25TH APRIL 2021.

OPENING PRAYER.

God of boundless mercy and unfailing love,
our Creator, saviour, and redeemer,
as part of the body of Christ around the world,
as people called to live for You in the families and communities
and networks in which You have placed us,
we gather to worship You:
to proclaim Your goodness and to offer our thanks and praise.

HYMN:- StF 335. Rejoice the Lord is King.

- 1 Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore;
mortals, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice! Again I say:rejoice!
- 2 Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above:
- 3 His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules both earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given:
- 4 He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet:
- 5 Rejoice in glorious hope;
Jesus the Judge shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home:
We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
God's trumpet-call shall sound:rejoice!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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PRAYERS.

God of all blessings,

source of all life,

giver of all grace:

We thank you for the gift of life:

for the breath

that sustains life,

for the food of this earth

that nurtures life,

for the love of family and friends

without which there would be no life.

We thank you for the mystery of creation:

for the beauty

that the eye can see,

for the joy

that the ear may hear,

for the unknown

that we cannot behold filling the universe with wonder,

for the expanse of space

that draws us beyond the definitions of our selves.

We thank you for setting us in communities:

for families

who nurture our becoming,

for friends

who love us by choice,

for companions at work,

who share our burdens and daily tasks,

for strangers

who welcome us into their midst,

for people from other lands

who call us to grow in understanding,

for children

who lighten our moments with delight,

for the unborn,
who offer us hope for the future.

We thank you for this day:

for life

and one more day to love,

for your grace

and one more experience of your presence,

for your promise:

to be with us,

to be our God,

and to give salvation.

For these, and all blessings,

we give you thanks, eternal, loving God,

through Jesus Christ we pray.

Merciful God,

Have mercy on our souls,

according to your unwavering love;

according to your abundant mercy

wipe away our sins and the guilt we have carried for so long.

Instead write on our hearts your love

Your boundaries for our lives

Your salvation that sets us free from our sins.

To live the abundant life you have for each of us.

Create in us clean hearts,

Renew your spirit within us.

Do not turn us away from your presence,

do not take your holy spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation,

and sustain in us a willing spirit.

Write on our hearts, your love O God. **Amen.**

1ST READING:- Psalm 30

2ND READING:- John 21:1-19

MESSAGE.

HYMN:- StF 410. Lord, your Church on earth is seeking.

- 1 Lord, your Church on earth is seeking
your renewal from above;
teach us all the art of speaking
with the accent of your love.
We would heed your great commission:
sending us to every place --
preach, baptise, fulfil my mission,
serve with love and share my grace.

- 2 Freedom give to those in bondage,
lift the burdens caused by sin.
Give new hope, new strength and courage,
grant release from fears within:
light for darkness; joy for sorrow;
love for hatred; peace for strife.
These and countless blessings follow
as the Spirit gives new life.

- 3 In the streets of every city
where the bruised and lonely dwell,
let us show the Saviour's pity,
let us of his mercy tell.
In all lands and with all races
let us serve, and seek to bring
all the world to render praises,
Christ, to you, Redeemer, King.

Hugh Sherlock (1905-1998)

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your loving kindness;

in your great compassion, hear our prayers.

We pray for the whole church,

all the people of God,

all who respond to the call of Jesus, 'follow me'.

We pray for our nation, for all the nations of the earth,

and for all who govern and judge.

We pray for those who hunger, those who thirst,

those who cry out for justice,
those who live under the threat of terror,
and those without a place to lay their head.
May they hear of joy and gladness,
that those who are broken may rejoice.
We pray for those who are ill, those in pain,
those under stress, and those who are lonely.
Give them the joy of your saving help,
and sustain them with your bountiful Spirit.
Create in us clean hearts, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
We pray for those who have been bereaved.
Give them your comfort and peace.
Lord Jesus,
you taught your disciples that unless a grain of wheat
falls into the earth and dies it remains just a single grain,
but if it dies it bears much fruit;
grant us the strength and wisdom to serve and follow you,
this day and always. **Amen.**

HYMN:- StF 355. Jesus, lover of my soul.

- 1 Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!
- 2 Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.
- 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find;

raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.

- 4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound,
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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BLESSING AND DISMISSAL.

O God, who by the passion of thy blessed Son
hast made the instrument of shameful death
to be unto us the means of life and peace:
Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ
that we may gladly suffer shame and loss;
for the sake of the same thy Son our Lord.

Amen.