

**SERVICE SHEET FOR**  
**19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP.**

Living God,  
we have come together to worship you,  
to meet here with Christ,  
not simply because we feel we should do,  
nor because it is expected of us,  
but because we want to praise you.  
Meet with us now,  
open our hearts and our minds to your presence.  
**Amen.**

**HYMN: StF 690. The Church's one foundation.**

- 1 The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word;  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.
- 2 Called out from every nation,  
yet one through all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
and shares one holy food,  
as to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.
- 3 In toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
at last the Church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.
- 4 Yet she on earth has union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic, sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!

Lord, give us grace that we,  
with them, the meek and lowly,  
in heaven your face shall see.

*Samuel John Stone (1832-1900)*

*Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition,  
number 690*

**PRAYERS.**

God of all,  
we come to proclaim your greatness,  
to sing of your might,  
to declare your majesty,  
and to rejoice in all that you have done.  
You are a God of love and mercy,  
and we praise you.

We come to hear again of your great acts across  
history,  
your wonderful deeds amongst your people,  
all you have accomplished in Christ.  
You are a God of love and mercy,  
and we praise you.

We come to lift up our hearts  
to lift up our voices,  
and to celebrate again the Gospel.  
You are a God of love and mercy,  
and we praise you.

But as we bring our praise so also we bring our  
confession.  
Confession that too often our praise has been  
hollow,  
our worship restricted to Sundays  
and to these four walls.  
That when the chance has come to speak for you  
we have kept silent,  
and when the opportunity has arisen to serve you  
we have held back.  
That when we have known what we should do  
we have failed to do it,  
and when we have known what not to do  
we have gone ahead and done it.

That we have forgotten you are always ready  
to forgive and renew us,  
and consequently have burdened ourselves

with feelings of guilt and despair.

Merciful God,  
forgive us now for failing to practice what we  
preach,  
for denying what we proclaim by the way we live,  
for letting you down in so many ways  
through our weaknesses.

Help us to live in such a way  
that our words and actions may be one,  
and our faith seen to be real.  
And so may all we say,  
all we do,  
and all we are,  
witness to you and the wonder of your love  
shown through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Psalm 34:1-8.

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** Matthew 6:25-34.

#### **MESSAGE.**

#### **HYMN: StF 479. The King of love my shepherd is.**

- 1 The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.
- 2 Where streams of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;

thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

- 6 And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

*Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)*

*Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition,  
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#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION.**

Living God,  
we pray for all those who are weighed down  
by the stresses and strains of daily life.  
Those who long for peace of mind,  
who crave rest for their souls,  
but cannot find it.

We pray for those oppressed by worry,  
unable to throw off their anxieties,  
held captive by a multitude of secret fears.

We pray for those who cannot let go,  
those who find it impossible to relax or unwind,  
always fretting over this or that.

We pray for those who lose themselves in  
busyness,  
masking their true feelings  
and running from their emptiness,  
hoping that keeping active might bring them  
happiness.

We pray for those who have lost time for you,  
allowing the pressures and demands of each day  
to shut you out,  
putting any thought of you off until tomorrow.

We pray for those who have no time for you,  
no interest in anything other than their daily  
routine,  
no awareness of their spiritual needs.

Living God,  
speak to each one in your still small voice,

and grant them your peace which passes  
understanding,  
that quiet confidence which only you can bring,  
and so may their burdens be lifted  
and their souls refreshed.

Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER.**

#### **HYMN: StF 81. Now thank we all our God.**

1 Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore,  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

*Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)*

*translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)*

*Reproduced from Singing the Faith Electronic Words Edition,  
number 81*

### **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL.**

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