

South-West Hants Group of URC Churches
Sunday 13th September 2020
Welcome to our Virtual Service
led by Revd Dr Sarah Hall

Call to worship: Meditation with prayer

All: Loving God, we thank you that you are with us, and that we may call upon you no matter where we are, or what we are feeling. Keep us mindful of your presence and trusting in your promise—that you are working with us in the moment-by-moment unfolding of our lives.

Amen.

Hymn R&S 543: Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

- 1** Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing,
if our God our Father be.
- 2** Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.
- 3** Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:

thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

Words: James Edmeston (1792-1867)

Prayers of adoration

Hebrew Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-9

Comment

Hymn R&S 345: Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
(vv1, 3)

- 1** Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore!
feed me now and evermore.
- 2** 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 give to thee!
I will ever give to thee.

Words: William Williams (1717-1791), tr Peter Williams
(1727-1796) and William Williams (1717-1791) or John
Williams (1754-1828)

New Testament Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Comment

Hymn R&S 564: Jesus, Lord, we look to thee (vv1,2)

- 1 Jesus, Lord, we look to thee,
Let us in thy name agree;
Show thyself the prince of peace;
Bid our jarring conflicts cease.

 - 2 By thy reconciling love,
Every stumbling-block remove;
Each to each unite, endear;
Come, and spread thy banner here.
- Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayers of confession

Assurance of pardon

Leader:... we respond: through Jesus Christ our Lord:

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.

Affirmation of faith

**We believe in God, creator of all,
whose word sustains our life, and directs our history.**

God is our life.***

**We believe in God's Son,
born amongst the poor, light in our night,
first-born from the dead.**

He is alive.***

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who gives birth to God's new life,
who breathes life into the struggle for justice,
who leads us to hope.**

Who is a living force.***

**We believe in the holy universal Church,
herald of God's Good News
which frees people and brings new life.
We believe in the coming of a new world
where Jesus Christ, our Lord,
will be all in all.
Amen.**

Communion Hymn R&S 434 (vv1-3)

- 1 Jesus invites his saints
To meet around his board;
Here pardoned sinners sit, and hold
Communion with their Lord.

 - 2 For food he gives his flesh,
He bids us drink his blood;
Amazing favour, matchless grace
Of our descending God!

 - 3 This holy bread and wine
Maintains our fainting breath,
By union with our living Lord,
And interest in his death.
- Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Narrative of the institution

Eucharistic prayer

Lift up your hearts

WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

Leader: Generous host, you made the whole world for us to enjoy and to share.
You came in Jesus to teach us how to be your guests.
Your Spirit joins us together in the joy of hospitality.
So we praise you, saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Come to us where we are, God our Host,
Worshipping, may we meet around your table
as we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he died,
took bread and wine, blessed them
and gave them to his invited guests,
saying: 'This is my body; this is my blood.
Eat and drink to remember me.'

**All: Pour out your Holy Spirit,
on this bread and this wine;
and on these your people.
May we worship you with body, heart and soul
Gathered around our screens
and in the whole of our lives.
Amen.**

Leader: Let us proclaim together the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ has died. Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.**

Leader: As Jesus taught his friends, let us pray together:

**All: Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth,
as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us,
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Prayers of thanks and concern

If you were to finish the sentence:

In spite of Coronavirus I thank God for... how would you end it?

Give your thanks to God.

We have been asked to remember Barbara Marsden and her family in our prayers,
as Peter's funeral is this week.

If you were to say the sentence:

These people, this place, this situation,
needs God's healing touch:

how would you begin it?

Give God the concerns of your heart.

Thanks

All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Music: R&S 648: Jesu, Jesu