

# South-West Hants Group of URC Churches

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 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 121: The God of Abraham praise (vv1, 3)

1 The God of Abraham praise  
who reigns enthroned above,  
Ancient of everlasting Days,  
and God of love:  
Jehovah, great I AM,  
by earth and heaven confess;  
I bow and bless the sacred name  
for ever blest.

2 The God who reigns on high  
the great archangels sing,  
and 'Holy, Holy, Holy.' cry,  
'almighty King,  
who was, and is the same,  
and evermore shall be:  
Jehovah, Father, great I AM,  
we worship thee.'

*Yigaddel Elohim chay weyishtabach*

Words: Daniel Ben Judah (fl 14th century), Thomas Olivers (1725-1799)

**Prayers of adoration and confession**

**Assurance of pardon**

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

**All:** Amen. Thanks be to God.

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Hebrew Bible Reading:** Exodus 3:1-15

**Comment**

**Hymn** R&S 643: Let my people go! (vv1, 3, 6)

1 When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
*let my people go;*  
oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
*let my people go.*  
*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,*  
*Tell old Pharaoh, 'Let my people go!'*

2 The Lord told Moses what to do,  
*let my people go;*  
to lead the children of Israel through,  
*let my people go.*  
*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,*  
*Tell old Pharaoh, 'Let my people go!'*

3 So let us all from bondage flee,  
*let my people go;*  
and Jesus, he will set us free,  
*let my people go.*  
*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,*  
*Tell old Pharaoh, 'Let my people go!'*

4 I do believe without a doubt,  
let my people go;  
a Christian has a right to shout,  
let my people go.  
*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,*  
*Tell old Pharaoh, 'Let my people go!'*

Words: Anonymous African-American

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 16:21-28

**Hymn** R&S 227: Were you there? (vv1, 2)

1 Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?

Words: Anonymous African-American

## Comment

**Hymn** R&S 164: Go, tell it on the mountain!

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere.  
Go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born.*

1 When I was a seeker,  
I sought both night and day:  
I asked my Lord to help me  
and he showed me the way.  
*Chorus.*

Words: Anonymous African-American

### 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 pray for Barbara Marsden and her family  
after the sad death of Peter Marsden, long-time member of Avenue St Andrew's.

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