

Order of Service for Sunday evening – 21st May 2023

**Corinne Brixton is leading and David Rue is speaking
This evening we shall be celebrating Holy Communion**

Welcome & opening prayer

Song: 'Rejoice'

COME AND STAND BEFORE YOUR MAKER

Full of wonder full of fear
Come behold his power and glory
Yet with confidence draw near
For the one who holds the heavens
And commands the stars above
Is the God who bends to bless us
With an unrelenting love

*Rejoice
Come and lift your hands and raise your voice
He is worthy of all praise
Rejoice
Sing the mercies of your king
And with trembling rejoice*

We are children of the promise
The beloved of the Lord
Won with everlasting kindness
Bought with sacrificial blood
Bringing reconciliation
To a world that longs to know
The affections of a father
Who will never let them go

All our sickness all our sorrows
Jesus carried up the hill
He has walked this path before us
He is walking with us still
Turning tragedy to triumph
Turning agony to praise
There is blessing in the battle
So take heart and stand amazed

*Rejoice
When you cry to him he hears your voice
He will wipe away your tears
Rejoice
In the midst of suffering
He will help you sing*

Confession

Lord Jesus Christ,
we confess we have failed you as did your first disciples.
We ask for your mercy and your help.

Our selfishness betrays you:
Lord, forgive us.
ALL: Christ have mercy.

We fail to share the pain of your suffering:
Lord, forgive us.
ALL: Christ have mercy.

We run away from those who abuse you:
Lord, forgive us.
ALL: Christ have mercy.

We are afraid of being known to belong to you:
Lord, forgive us.
ALL: Christ have mercy.

Prayers: Aaron Ku

Reading: John 15:18-25 on page 1083 (Jon Fenton)

Song: 'He will keep you' (Psalm 121)

I LIFT MY EYES AND SEE

I need not be afraid
All my help comes from the Lord
Who the earth and sky has made

*He will keep you from all evils
Behind you and before
He will sustain you through this journey
From now and evermore*

The Lord will never sleep
My steps He has ordained
For the One Who holds the night
Is the Sovereign of my days

Talk: Counting the cost

Song: 'As the heavens are higher'

AS THE HEAVENS ARE HIGHER THAN THE EARTH

So His ways are higher than the ways of this world
And His thoughts run deeper than the mind of man
Father break into our darkened hearts

Come and drink the river of His Word
If you thirst for water that can satisfy
Come and join the banquet at the Master's feast
Where His love and faithfulness provide

Come and listen to His gentle voice
For the words He speaks to us are Spirit and life
Come and seek your Saviour while He may be found
Sure that Jesus' words can never lie

*I will trust in You as You speak to me
I will turn to You as You call my name
As the rain gives life on this arid ground
So Your word will bring Your children home*

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Richard Simpkin
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Holy Communion

Song: 'There is a higher throne'

THERE IS A HIGHER THRONE

Than all this world has known
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue
Will one day come
Before the Son we'll stand
Made faultless through the Lamb
Believing hearts find promised grace
Salvation comes

*Hear heaven's voices sing
Their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'erald courts and sapphire skies
Their praises rise
All glory wisdom pow'r
Strength thanks and honour are
To God our King who reigns on high
Forever more*

And there we'll find our home
Our life before the throne
We'll honour Him in perfect song
Where we belong
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye
As thirst and hunger die
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd King
We'll reign with Him

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Prayer of Dedication

*Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us by faith
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of the Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.
Amen.*