Order of Service for Sunday evening – 28th January 2024

David Ashman is leading and David Rue is speaking this evening

Welcome & opening prayer

Song: 'How firm a foundation'

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION, YOU SAINTS OF THE LORD,

Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He has said You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed, For I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, My grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply. The flames shall not hurt you; I only design Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose I will not, I cannot, desert to his foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavour to shake, I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!"

> Music: (c) 2003 Richard Simpkin Words: Richard Keen (1787)

Song: 'Christ our hope in life and death'

WHAT IS OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH

Christ alone Christ alone What is our only confidence That our souls to Him belong Who holds our days within His hand What comes apart from His command And what will keep us to the end The love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah Our hope springs eternal O sing hallelujah Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul God is good God is good Where is His grace and goodness known In our great Redeemer's blood Who holds our faith when fears arise Who stands above the stormy trial Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing Christ He lives Christ He lives And what reward will heaven bring Everlasting life with Him There we will rise to meet the Lord Then sin and death will be destroyed And we will feast in endless joy When Christ is ours forevermore

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Confession:

Most merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Prayers: Cerian Choi

Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:10 on page 1187 (Corinne Brixton)

Song: 'Show us Christ'

PREPARE OUR HEARTS O GOD

Help us to receive Break the hard and stony ground Help our unbelief Plant Your Word down deep in us 'Cause it to bear fruit Open up our ears to hear Lead us in Your truth

Show us Christ show us Christ O God reveal Your glory Through the preaching of Your Word Until every heart confesses Christ is Lord

Your Word is living light Upon our darkened eyes Guards us through temptations Makes the simple wise Your Word is food for famished ones Freedom for the slave Riches for the needy soul Come speak to us today

Where else can we go Lord Where else can we go You have the words of eternal life (REPEAT)

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Talk:

What is our hope?

Song: 'O church arise'

O CHURCH ARISE AND PUT YOUR ARMOUR ON

Hear the call of Christ our Captain For now the weak can say that they are strong In the strength that God has given With shield of faith and belt of truth We'll stand against the devil's lies An army bold whose battle cry is Love Reaching out to those in darkness

Our call to war to love the captive soul But to rage against the captor And with the sword that makes the wounded whole We will fight with faith and valour When faced with trials on every side We know the outcome is secure And Christ will have the prize for which He died An inheritance of nations

Come see the cross where love and mercy meet As the Son of God is stricken Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet For the Conqueror has risen And as the stone is rolled away And Christ emerges from the grave This victory march continues till the day Every eye and heart shall see Him

So Spirit come put strength in every stride Give grace for every hurdle That we may run with faith to win the prize Of a servant good and faithful As saints of old still line the way Retelling triumphs of His grace We hear their calls and hunger for the day When with Christ we stand in glory

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Closing Prayer