

The apostle Paul wrote:

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now
Philippians 1:3-5

To the body of Christ,
Grace and peace to you,
From God the creator
And our Lord Jesus Christ.
And also to you.

Hymn 'As the deer pants for the water'.

Martin Nystrom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBppKZ0eJIQ>

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship You.

Chorus You alone are my strength and shield,
to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship You.

You're my friend
and you are my brother,
even though You are a King.
I love you more than any other,
so much more than anything.
Chorus

Repeat verse 1
Chorus

A Prayer of Approach:

In the midst of these unsettled times
We come into your presence,
Compassionate God,
For you are the source of life:
For in you is our hope;

For in you we place our trust,
Steadfast God, we do so
In times when it is often not easy
To know who to trust
Or where hope and vision is to be found.

In this unlikely hour,
On line, in the privacy of our homes,
We gather with us
Who, like us, have been touched
By the wind of your Spirit.

We praise you:
We worship you,
Three-in-one God, **Amen.**

An Act of Confession and Trust in God

Jesus said: Love the Lord your God,
with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your strength
and with all your mind'

Jesus said: Love your neighbour
As yourself.

(Silence)

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy
When we prefer the power of the strong
And do not show concern for those at risk.

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy
When we prefer what is not right to what is right:

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy
When we have fear of the other
And forget how you care for us.

Silence

What does the Lord require of you?

To act justly, love mercy
And walk humbly with God.

Song: 'Spirit of the Living Lord'.

<https://link.smule.com/mTw25tatN6?channel=Copy-Link&lyricStyle=0>

Spirit of the living God,
Fall a fresh on me
Spirit of the living God,
Fall a fresh on me
Melt me
Mould Me
Fill me
Use me
Spirit of the living God,
Fall afresh on me

Words of Assurance: (Matthew 7:24-27)

Jesus said:

Each of those who hears these my words
And does them is like the wise person
who builds their house on rock.

The rain came down, the rivers rose,
And the winds blew and beat against that house;
But it did not fall, because it was built on rock.

Believe the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are loved,
Forgiven, and set free!

Behold salvation has come to this house.
Thanks be to God!

Song: Be still for the presence of the Lord
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgotyNJioGs>

David Evans 1986

Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One, is here;
come, bow before Him now,
with reverence and fear.
In Him no sin is found;
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
The Holy One, is here.

Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around;
He burns with holy fire,
with splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord
is shining all around.

Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place;
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister his grace.
No work too hard for him,
in faith receive from him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord
is moving in this place.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

Learning Together:

The last shall be first: if Jesus had come to the Olympics
(Sydney 2000)

The Service of the Word

Readers:

Reading: Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" ⁸And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord."

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹ The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹² "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?"^[a] For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

In dialogue: in the wilderness (Amelia)

Epistle: Philippians 1:21-30

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

In dialogue:

Being worthy

Keith

Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

The Laborers in the Vineyard

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage,^[a] he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.^[b] ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.^[c] ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³ But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?^[d] ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'^[e] ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last."^[f]

In dialogue:

The last will be first

Mary

Hymn

Spirit of God, unseen as the wind

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy8AZ46GKqc>

Chorus: Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove;
teach us the truth and help us believe,
show us the Saviour's love

1. You spoke to us long, long ago,
gave us the written word;
we read it still, needing its truth
through it God's voice is heard

Chorus

2. Without your help we fail our Lord,
We cannot live His way;
We need Your power, we need Your strength,
Following Christ each day.

Chorus

The Offering and Prayer:

Prayers for Others:

Lord, in your mercy
HEAR OUR PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Notices

Hymn TiS

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

Joyce Placzek

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b8mti7VL3gg>

Lord of all hopefulness,
Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like,
no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking
and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,
at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness,
Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled
at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours
and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord,
at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness,
Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome,
your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing
and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord,
at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness,
Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment,
whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping
and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord,
at the end of the day.

Dismissal and Blessing:

May the love of God
The creator in whose image
We are made:

Watch over all your days

May the peace of Christ
The beloved Son:
Be with you and sustain you.

May the Spirit of God,
The life giver,
Raise you to new hope:
Now and always,

Song: Thuma mina

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eik2HK7u9xA>

Thuma mina	Somandla
Send me Jesus	
Lead me Jesus	
Fill me Jesus	
Thuma mina	