



Sunday 21 April 2024

Welcome to Christ Church Glasgow! We are a new church committed to God, committed to each other and committed to telling the people of Glasgow the good news about Jesus Christ. We are glad you're with us today and would love to get to know you better so please feel free to ask any questions.

Welcome

Call to Worship (from Psalm 2:10-12)

Leader: **Therefore, you kings, be wise;
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

All: *Serve the Lord with fear
 and celebrate his rule with trembling.*

Leader: **Kiss his son, or he will be angry
 and your way will lead to your destruction,
 for his wrath can flare up in a moment.**

All: *Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

Song – Praise my soul the King of heaven

Praise my soul the King of heaven	Father-like He tends and spares us
To His feet your tribute bring	Well our human frame He knows
Ransomed healed restored forgiven	In His hands He gently bears us
Who like me His praise should sing?	Rescues us from all our foes
Praise Him praise Him	Praise Him praise Him
Praise Him praise Him	Praise Him praise Him
Praise the everlasting King	Widely as His mercy flows
Praise Him for His grace and favour	Angels help us to adore Him
To His people in distress	You behold Him face to face
Praise Him still the same for ever	Sun and moon bow down before Him
Slow to anger, swift to bless	All who dwell in time and space
Praise Him praise Him	Praise Him praise Him
Praise Him praise Him	Praise Him praise Him
Glorious in His faithfulness	Praise with us the God of grace

Call to worship

With so many distractions vying for our attention, this is a time to focus our hearts and minds and prepare to worship God.

Songs

We sing songs to worship God and to encourage one another. If you are not able to join in, please take time to reflect on the God we sing to.

Prayer

When we pray we are talking to God. We approach him with reverence and want to give him our adoration, confess our sins and thank him.

Prayer of confession

Confession is when we are honest about ourselves, each other, and with God. As we admit our misplaced affections, we are called to reorder our lives. Only by being honest about our sin will the good news of grace be significant.

Psalms

The Psalms are a collection of songs from the Bible. They can be sung, spoken or prayed. They contain the experience of every human emotion.

Prayer (with prayer of confession)

Holy God, we are guilty — of pride and unbelief, of failure to trust in Your Word, of neglect to seek You in our daily lives. Our sins are many. We confess them now and seek your forgiveness through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. We ask Lord that you would subdue our weaknesses and selfishness, granting us grace to live above them. Let us not be mastered by them, but by your rule over us. We praise and thank You for Your wisdom and love, yet also for sometimes putting us into the furnace to refine us. Deliver us from every evil habit, everything that dims the brightness of Your grace in us and everything that prevents us from taking our deepest delight in You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Song - Jesus strong and kind

Jesus said

That if I thirst

I should come to Him

No one else can satisfy

I should come to Him

Jesus said

If I am weak

I should come to Him

No one else can be my strength

I should come to Him

For the Lord is good and faithful

He will keep us day and night

We can always run to Jesus

Jesus strong and kind

Jesus said

That if I fear

I should come to Him

No one else can be my shield

I should come to Him

For the Lord...

Jesus said

If I am lost

He will come to me

And He showed me on that cross

He will come to me

For the Lord...

Children leave

Passing of the Peace

As a long-standing tradition of the church, this is a time when we have the opportunity to greet one another, regardless of our relationship, as individuals made in God's image. It is also a call to be united despite our differences.

Prayer for others

Psalm 2

Why do the heathen nations rage?

Why do the peoples plot in vain?

Earth's kings combine in enmity;

Her rulers join against God's reign.

They take their stand against the LORD

And challenge His anointed one:

"Let us break off their chains from us;

With their restraints let us be done."

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

The Lord on high derides them all.

Then He rebukes them in His wrath;

His rage and terror on them fall.

The LORD has made it known to them:

"My Chosen King I have installed

On Zion, My own holy hill.

He is the One Whom I have called."

Bible reading

The Bible is the Word of God. When we read it we are listening to God speaking to us.

Bible reading - Acts 12:1-25

12 It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. ² He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. ³ When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. ⁴ After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

⁵ So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.

⁶ The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. ⁷ Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

⁸ Then the angel said to him, 'Put on your clothes and sandals.' And Peter did so. 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me,' the angel told him. ⁹ Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

¹¹ Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.'

¹² When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. ¹³ Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door. ¹⁴ When she recognised Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, 'Peter is at the door!'

¹⁵ 'You're out of your mind,' they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, 'It must be his angel.'

¹⁶ But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished. ¹⁷ Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. 'Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this,' he said, and then he left for another place.

¹⁸ In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. ¹⁹ After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.

Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there. ²⁰ He had been quarrelling with the people of Tyre and Sidon; they now joined together and sought an audience with him. After securing the support of Blastus, a trusted personal servant of the king, they asked for peace, because they depended on the king's country for their food supply.

²¹ On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people. ²² They shouted, 'This is the voice of a god, not of a man.' ²³ Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.

²⁴ But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.

²⁵ When Barnabas and Saul had finished their mission, they returned from Jerusalem, taking with them John, also called Mark.

Talk

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH:

Who Rules?

Song – When trials come

When trials come no longer fear
For in the pain our God draws near
To fire a faith worth more than gold
And there His faithfulness is told
And there His faithfulness is told

Within the night I know Your peace
The breath of God brings strength to me
And new each morning mercy flows
As treasures of the darkness grow
As treasures of the darkness grow

I turn to wisdom not my own
For ev'ry battle You have known
My confidence will rest in You
Your love endures Your ways are good
Your love endures Your ways are good

Ordination of Office Bearers

Song – Before the throne of God above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end to all my sin

When I am weary with the cost
I see the triumph of the cross
So in its shadow I shall run
Till You complete the work begun
Till You complete the work begun

One day all things will be made new
I'll see the hope You called me to
And in Your kingdom paved with gold
I'll praise Your faithfulness of old
I'll praise Your faithfulness of old

Because the sinless Saviour died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me
Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless righteousness
The great unchangeable I Am
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased with His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Saviour and my God
With Christ my Saviour and my God

Talk

The talk is a time of teaching from the Bible reading. The aim is not just for head information, but heart transformation, as the good news of Jesus Christ is explained and applied to our lives.