

Welcome to our Worship for Sunday 26th of July.

Heaven is here, and earth
And the space is thin between them
Distance may divide
But Christ's promises unite
Those bounded by time,
Those blessed by eternity

All Creatures Of Our God And King,
Lift Up Your Voice And With Us Sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou Burning Sun With Golden Beam,
Thou Silver Moon With Softer Gleam!
O Praise Him! O Praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou Rushing Wind That Art So Strong,
Ye Clouds That Sail In Heav'n Along,
O Praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou Rising Moon, In Praise Rejoice,
Ye Lights Of Evening, Find A Voice!
Oh praise him...

Thou Flowing Water, Pure And Clear,
Make Music For Thy Lord To Hear,
O Praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou Fire So Masterful And Bright,
That Givest Man Both Warmth And Light.
Oh praise him...

Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them His glory also show

Oh praise him...

Let All Things Their Creator Bless,
And Worship Him In Humbleness,
O Praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, Praise The Father, Praise The Son,
And Praise The Spirit, Three In One!

Oh praise him...

Romans 8: 26 - 30

26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes[[q](#)] with sighs too deep for words. 27 And God,[[r](#)] who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit[[s](#)] intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. [[t](#)]

28 We know that all things work together for good[[u](#)] for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.[[v](#)] 30 And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Confession (Music – Arvo Parte)

Romans 8: 31-34

31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in my Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own

Matthew 13: 31-33 & 44- 52

The Parable of the Mustard Seed

31 He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

The Parable of the Yeast

33 He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with[d] three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

Three Parables

44 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

45 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; 46 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

47 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; 48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

51 'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' 52 And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Payers and the Lords Prayer (*Accompanied by other voices- The priests*)

The Kingdom: by R S Thomas.

It's a long way off but inside it

There are quite different things going on:

Festivals at which the poor man

Is king and the consumptive is
Healed; mirrors in which the blind look
At themselves and love looks at them
Back; and industry is for mending
The bent bones and the minds fractured
By life. It's a long way off, but to get
There takes no time and admission
Is free, if you purge yourself
Of desire, and present yourself with
Your need only and the simple offering
Of your faith, green as a leaf.

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise;
in deeper reverence, praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word,
rise up and follow thee;
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity
interpreted by love!
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace;
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm;
O still, small voice of calm

God's Blessing

Closing music (*theme music from the Decectorists*)

With my thanks to **Chris** and **Lizzie** as always, to **Sister Diana** and **John** with **Kaitlin** for the readings, and also to **Tom** who sang for us – under much protest.