

S[†]Andrew's Kirk Ella

Morning Prayer 10th January 2021

Welcome – we are glad to see you. We meet to hear God speak through his Word, to thank him for his goodness to us, to bring our own needs before him, to pray for his world, and to encourage each other. Our aim is to encounter the living God together, through his Son Jesus Christ, and to discover in our daily experience the difference that a relationship with heaven makes to our lives.

Theme: Jesus brings the words of eternal life (John 6:68)

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. (NIV)

Prepare our hearts, O God, to hear your Word and obey your will. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God has spoken-by his prophets,
spoken his unchanging word;
each from age to age proclaiming
God the one, the righteous Lord;
in the world's despair and turmoil
one firm anchor still holds fast:
God is King, his throne eternal,
God the first and God the last.

God has spoken-by Christ Jesus,
Christ, the everlasting Son;
brightness of the Father's glory,
with the Father ever one:
spoken by the Word incarnate,
Life, before all time began,
light of light, to earth descending,
God, revealed as Son of Man.

God is speaking-by his Spirit
speaking to our hearts again;
in the age-long word expounding
God's own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations
one sure faith is standing fast:
God abides, his word unchanging,
God the first and God the last.

George Briggs
© 1953, 1981 Hymn Society / Hope Publishing

Confession

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Family: How do you know what someone is really like?

You're the word of God the Father

from before the world began;
every star and every planet
has been fashioned by your hand.
All creation holds together
by the power of your voice.
Let the skies declare your glory,
let the land and seas rejoice!

*You're the Author of creation
and the Lord of every man
and your cry of love rings out
across the lands.*

Yet you left the gaze of angels,
came to seek and save the lost,
and exchanged the joy of Heaven
for the anguish of a cross.

With a prayer you fed the hungry,
with a word you calmed the sea,
yet how silently you suffered
that the guilty may go free.

With a shout you rose victorious
wresting victory from the grave,
and ascended into Heaven
leading captives in your way.
Now you stand before the Father
interceding for your own;
from each tribe and tongue and nation
you are leading sinners home.

Stuart Townend
© 2002 Thankyou Music

Reading: Deuteronomy 8:1-3

¹ Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land that the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. (NIV)

Reading: John 5.19-29

¹⁹ Jesus gave them this answer: 'Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, and he will show him even greater works than these, so that you will be amazed. ²¹ For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. ²² Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, ²³ that all may honour the Son just as they honour the

Father. Whoever does not honour the Son does not honour the Father, who sent him.

²⁴ 'Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. ²⁵ Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. ²⁶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

²⁸ 'Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice ²⁹ and come out – those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned. (NIV)

Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Apostles' Creed

1. The Son does all and only what the Father does (v19-20)

O Word of God incarnate,
 O wisdom from on high,
 O truth unchanged, unchanging,
 O light of our dark sky,
 We praise thee for the radiance
 That from the hallowed page,
 A lantern to our footsteps,
 Shines on from age to age.

The church from her dear Master
 Received the gift divine,
 And still that light she lifteth
 O'er all the earth to shine;
 It is the precious treasury
 Where gems of truth are stored;
 It is the heaven-drawn picture
 Of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner
 Before God's host unfurled;
 It shineth like a beacon
 Above the shadowed world;
 It is the chart and compass
 That, o'er life's surging sea,
 'Mid mists, and rocks, and quicksands,
 Still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy church, dear Saviour,
 A lamp of burnished gold,
 To bear before the nations
 Thy true light, as of old;
 O teach thy wandering pilgrims
 By this their path to trace,
 Till, clouds and darkness ended,
 They see thee face to face.

W Walsham How (1823-1897)

2. Jesus gives life to those who believe his words (v21-29)

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.

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.

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.

Richard Simpkin
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3. Jesus judges those who reject his words (v21-29)

Prayers

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Jesus! the name high over all

in hell or earth or sky;
 angels and men before it fall
 and devils fear and fly,
 and devils fear and fly.

Jesus! the name to sinners dear,
 the name to sinners given;
 it scatters all their guilty fear,
 it turns their hell to heaven,
 it turns their hell to heaven.

Jesus the prisoner's fetters breaks,
 and bruises Satan's head;
 power into strengthless souls he speaks
 and life into the dead,
 and life into the dead.

O that the world might taste and see
 the riches of his grace!
 The arms of love that welcome me
 would all mankind embrace,
 would all mankind embrace.

His righteousness alone I show,
 his saving grace proclaim;
 this is my work on earth below,
 to cry: 'Behold the Lamb!'
 to cry: 'Behold the Lamb!'

Happy, if with my latest breath
 I may but gasp His name,
 preach him to all, and cry in death,
 'Behold, behold the Lamb!'
 'Behold, behold the Lamb!'

Charles Wesley

God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for eternal life. God the Son, who comes to us as Redeemer and Judge, reveal to you the path from darkness to light. God the Holy Spirit, by whose working the virgin, Mary conceived the Christ, help you bear the fruit of holiness. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

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