



**St Edmund's Taverham
with
St Peter's Ringland
Welcome to our Worship
for Sunday 6 September
2020.**

Creationtide

Our gathering song this week. (words by God's Spoken Word Ministries)

Hear our cry, Lord, we pray
Our faces down, our hands are raised
You called us out, we turned away
We've turned away

With shipwrecked faith the idols rise
We do what is right in our own eyes
Our children now will pay the price
We need Your light, Lord, shine Your light

If we've ever needed You
Lord, it's now, Lord, it's now
We are desperate for Your hand
We're reaching out, we're reaching out

All our hearts, all our strength
With all our minds, we're at Your feet
May Your kingdom come in our hearts and lives
Let Your church arise, let Your church arise

Our hope is lost, our heads are bowed
We revere the cross, still we're cowed
We need your hands, raise us high
Revive us now, we will arise

Welcome to our worship today. As we gather together in our own homes we are mindful of our unity in the Holy Spirit who draws us together in Christ as we meet as children of our heavenly Father.

People of God, open your eyes!
Look around!
The presence of our Lord Jesus Christ is here—
among us and within us.
God's salvation is close at hand—
nearer than you know.
So open your hearts and minds to the Spirit,
and let's worship God together!

Our opening song (words by Samuel Crossman)

My song is love unknown, my Saviour's love to me
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be
Oh, who am I that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow
But men made strange and none the longed-for Christ would know
But O! my friend, my friend indeed
Who at my need, His life did spend

Sometimes they strew His way and His sweet praises sing
Resounding all the day, hosannas to-o their King
Then, "Crucify!" is all their breath
And for His death they thirst and cry

Why, what has my Lord done to cause this rage and spite
He made the lame to run, and gave the blind their sight
What injuries, yet these are why
The Lord Most High so cruelly dies

They rise and needs will have my dear Lord made away
A murderer they save, the Prince of life they slay
Yet Cheerful He to suffering goes
That he his foes from thence might free

In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have
In death no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave
What may I say, Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb wherein He lay

Here might I stay and sing no story so divine
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like Thine

This is my friend in whose sweet praise
I, all my days would gladly spend.

As you think back over this past week, what are the things that stand out for you, either as things that have brought you joy or perhaps sorrow? As you spend time reflecting, ask the Holy Spirit to show you what you might need to bring to God in prayer remembering that we have a friend in Jesus.

We have two scripture readings this week.

Psalm 119:33-40

- 33 Teach me, Lord, the meaning of your laws,
and I will obey them at all times.
- 34 Explain your law to me, and I will obey it;
I will keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Keep me obedient to your commandments,
because in them I find happiness.
- 36 Give me the desire to obey your laws
rather than to get rich.
- 37 Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless;
be good to me, as you have promised.
- 38 Keep your promise to me, your servant—
the promise you make to those who obey you.
- 39 Save me from the insults I fear;
how wonderful are your judgments!
- 40 I want to obey your commands;
give me new life, for you are righteous.

Matthew 18:15-20

15 "If a member of the church sins against you, go to them and show them their fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If the member listens to you, you have won them back. 16 But if the member will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,' as the scripture says. 17 And if they will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if the member will not listen to the church, treat that person as though they were a pagan or a tax collector.

18 "And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.

19 "And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."

You may like to spend some time reflecting on these words of scripture. How is God speaking to you through them?

You may like to read Rev Paul's thoughts in the St Ed's newsheet or as Thought for the week on the St Peter's website.

GOD, You are speaking to me!
Break through my slumbering.
Break through my lassitude.
Break my self-centeredness.
Break the veil over my mind.
Quicken my hearing!
Quicken my seeing!
Quicken my desires for You.
Awaken my zeal for You.
Awaken my love for Your purposes.
Awaken my desires for Your Kingdom to come here as in heaven.
I love You, LORD.
Help me carry that into my everyday activities.
Awaken to me, my LORD and my GOD. Amen

(Inspired by Romans 13
~ written by Rick, and posted on Transformation Michigan.
<http://transformmi.com/archives/1370>)

Let us pray.

Almighty God,
you search us and know us:
may we rely on you in strength
and rest on you in weakness,
now and in all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord's Prayer.

Song (based on Psalm 19:14, written by Rob Hill, Tim Hughes)

May the words of my mouth, and the thoughts of my heart
Bless Your name, bless Your name, Jesus
And the deeds of the day, and the truth in my way
Speak of You, speak of You, Jesus

For this is what I'm glad to do
It's time to live a life of love that pleases You
And I will give my all to You
Surrender ev'rything I have and follow You
I'll follow You

Lord, will You be my vision, Lord, will You be my Guide?
Be my hope, be my life, and the way
And I'll look not for riches, nor praises on earth
Only You'll be the first of my heart

I will follow, I will follow You

Our final prayer

Go now and walk in the light of the Lord.
Stay alert for the Lord is near.
Put on the armour of light
and live openly and honourably.
Pray for peace for all God's people.

And may God clothe you in the light of Christ;
May Christ Jesus teach you his ways;
And may the Holy Spirit keep you alert and prepared
for the coming day of the Lord.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
...In the name of Christ. Amen.