

4th July 2021



10.30am Morning Worship

5th Sunday after Trinity



Living in this world

Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

Philip Robertson & John Welsby

Please speak aloud words in **bold text**.
Singing – in our hearts, but not aloud.

CALL TO WORSHIP

You are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. *1 Peter 2:9*

Grace, mercy and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ
be with you
and also with you.

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We have come together in the name
of Christ
to offer our praise and thanksgiving,
to hear and receive God's holy
word,
to pray for the needs of the world,
and to seek the forgiveness of our
sins,
that by the power of the Holy Spirit
we may give ourselves to the service
of God.

1ST SONG – MAGNIFICENT MARVELLOUS AND MATCHLESS LOVE

Papa, Keyes, Brown, Getty

Magnificent, marvellous, matchless
love;
too vast and astounding to tell.
Forever existing in worlds above,
now offered and given to all.
Oh, fountain of beauty eternal;
the Father, the Spirit, the Son.
Sufficient and endlessly generous,
magnificent, marvellous, matchless
love.

Creation is brimming with
thankfulness, the mountains,
exultant they stand;
The seasons rejoice in Your faithfulness
all life is sustained by Your hand.
You crown every meadow with colour;
You paint every shade in the sky;
Each day the dawn wakes as an encore
of:
magnificent, marvellous, matchless love.

*How great, how sure;
His love endures forevermore.
Magnificent, marvellous,
matchless love.*

What grace, that You entered our
brokenness;
You came in the fullness of time.
How far we had fallen from
righteousness, but not from the
mercies of Christ.

Your cross is our door to redemption;
Your death is our fullness of life.
That day, how forgiveness flowed as
a flood:
magnificent, marvellous, matchless
love.

United in Your resurrection,
You lift us to infinite heights
Could anything sever or take us from:
magnificent, marvellous, matchless
love?

CONFESSION

¹ Dear brothers and sisters... give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you... Be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. ² Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12:1-3

**Father, forgive us for the grudges
we bear against each other,
and the angry thoughts within,
and the aggressive words we use.**

**Forgive us that we think so well of
ourselves,
and so badly of other people.**

**Forgive us that we are so often
filled
with negative thoughts and
attitudes.**

**Forgive us that we can use words of
faith so easily,
but that we find it extremely hard
to live them out.**

**We can talk about what we believe
about you, and your world, and
your love,
we can even walk in faith when our
lives our trouble free,
but we find that our words are
empty,
and our trust is very shallow,
and soon disappears in the
darkness of the storms we
experience.**

**Forgive us our failure to hope, to
trust, and to love.**

**Forgive us most of all where we are
unforgiving,
and make us new and clean again.
For Jesus' sake. Amen.**

David Clowes

May the Father forgive us
by the death of his Son
and strengthen us
to live by the power of the Spirit
all our days.
Amen.

COLLECT FOR TODAY

**Almighty God,
send down upon your Church
the riches of your Spirit,
and kindle in all who minister the
gospel
your countless gifts of grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

2ND SONG – MY LIFE IS AN OFFERING

Pat Sczebel & Joel Sczebel

This life is an altar
Where I want to offer
My soul, and my mind, and strength.
Cleansed by Your mercy to live a life
worthy

Of the One Who called my name.

Jesus, be glorified.

Jesus, be magnified.

Let me be a pleasing sacrifice.

Jesus, be glorified.

Jesus, be magnified.

Here on the altar

My life is an offering.

How could I not love You?

You authored my rescue.

Raised me up from death to life.

Your Spirit is in me, revealing Your
glory.

Oh what joy as I give my life.

Be Glorified.

I choose to lose my life, Lord

And find it in You.

BIBLE READING *Read by Cynthia Ulete*

Ecclesiastes 9:1-12

¹ So I reflected on all this and concluded that the righteous and the wise and what they do are in God's hands, but no one knows whether love or hate awaits them.

² All share a common destiny – the righteous and the wicked, the good and the bad, the clean and the unclean, those who offer sacrifices and those who do not.

As it is with the good,
so with the sinful;
as it is with those who take oaths,
so with those who are afraid to
take them.

³ This is the evil in everything that happens under the sun: The same destiny overtakes all. The hearts of people, moreover, are full of evil and there is madness in their hearts while they live, and afterwards they

join the dead. ⁴ Anyone who is among the living has hope – even a live dog is better off than a dead lion!

⁵ For the living know that they will die,
but the dead know nothing;
they have no further reward,
and even their name is forgotten.

⁶ Their love, their hate
and their jealousy have long since
vanished;
never again will they have a part
in anything that happens under
the sun.

⁷ Go, eat your food with gladness,
and drink your wine with a joyful
heart, for God has already approved
what you do. ⁸ Always be clothed in
white, and always anoint your head
with oil. ⁹ Enjoy life with your wife,
whom you love, all the days of this
meaningless life that God has given
you under the sun – all your
meaningless days. For this is your lot
in life and in your toilsome labour
under the sun. ¹⁰ Whatever your
hand finds to do, do it with all your
might, for in the realm of the dead,
where you are going, there is
neither working nor planning nor
knowledge nor wisdom.

¹¹ I have seen something else under
the sun:

The race is not to the swift
or the battle to the strong,
nor does food come to the wise
or wealth to the brilliant
or favour to the learned;
but time and chance happen to
them all.

¹² Moreover, no one knows when their hour will come:

As fish are caught in a cruel net,
or birds are taken in a snare,
so people are trapped by evil times
that fall unexpectedly upon them.

LIVING IN THIS WORLD *John Welsby*

3RD SONG – ANCIENT OF DAYS *CityAlight*
Though the nations rage, kingdoms
rise and fall.

There is still one King reigning over all,
So I will not fear for this truth remains
That my God is, the Ancient of Days.

*None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands.*

*For His throne it shall remain and
ever stand.*

*All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name,
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.*

Though the dread of night
overwhelms my soul
He is here with me, I am not alone.
O His love is sure, and He knows my
name,
For my God is, the Ancient of Days.

Though I may not see what the future
brings
I will watch and wait for the Saviour
King.
Then my joy complete, standing face
to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us declare our faith in God.
**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through
faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *Nicky Robertson*

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

*We will move outside to sing our final
song. Please stand six feet from
people not in your 'bubble.' **If you do
not want to appear on the video
filmed outside, please stand to the
St Jude's Road side of the gathering.
Remember to take your service sheet
with you for it has the words of the
song "Shine Jesus, Shine."***

4TH SONG – SHINE JESUS SHINE *Graham Kendrick*

Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness,
shining:
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon
us;
Set us free by the truth You now
bring us -
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze, Spirit, blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
Flood the nations with grace and
mercy;
Send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

Lord, I come to Your awesome
presence,
From the shadows into Your
radiance;
By the Blood I may enter Your
brightness:
Search me, try me, consume all my
darkness -
Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness,
Ever changing from glory to glory:
Mirrored here, may our lives tell
Your story -
Shine on me, shine on me.

BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy
and peace in believing;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
always.
Amen.

Prayer Topics & News for the week

If you would like the vicar to pray with you on the phone, call him on 01902 827214; or alternatively you can place a prayer request on our 'Prayer Chain' by phoning Brian on 01902 788017. He will have several people pray, in confidence, for your request.

**Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.
With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.**

Ephesians 6:18

For the World and our Nation and our City

- **Florida** – pray for families and friends grieving for the residents who have died in the horrifyingly sudden apartment building collapse last week.
- **For countries in conflict** – pray for peace particularly for Afghanistan, Tigray in Ethiopia, DRC, Yemen, Syria and Myanmar. Pray for those suffering due to violent conflict.
- **COVID-19** – pray that the spread of the very infectious Delta variant can be contained as it spreads to other countries, especially those that do not have adequate vaccines or resources. Pray for those countries where access to vaccine and its rollout has been difficult.
- **Violence in our neighbourhoods** – pray for the young lives taken by violence; for their suffering families; for those caught up in gang related crimes and abuse. *Father, protect our young people, lead them not into temptation, and deliver them from evil. Amen.*

For St Jude's Church

- Reflect on Ecclesiastes 9:1-12. Looking at vs.1-6. What certainties and uncertainties does the wise Teacher identify? And what does this remind us about humanity? Looking at vs.7-10. In what way does the way we respond to the good things of life reveal our relationship with God and our understanding of the world? Looking at vs.11-12. What point is being made in v.11, and how is it developed in v.12? Do you see your life filled with God's good gifts for your enjoyment, or are you too caught up in seeking gain for yourself to really notice? You perhaps think that a Christian's life should be different to all that is being described. Look at James 4:3-7. How does James echo the teaching of the wise Teacher of Ecclesiastes? How could Ecc.9:1-12 & James 4:13-17 help guide you into a pattern of life in which you are more in tune with the ways of God?
- Pray for those you know to be suffering in body or Spirit, and pray for wisdom to know how to best help them.
- Pray for Phil's assembly with St Jude's school years 5 & 6 on Wednesday. The subject is 'Reflect on the past school year'.
- Pray for the family of Jean Parkins. Phil takes her funeral at Bushbury Crematorium on Thursday.
- Pray all continues to go well with the electrical work in church.
- Pray for wisdom in our response to the 1st feedback report produced by our Deanery's *Shaping for Mission* working party (due to arrive soon).

For our Mission Partners – Good Shepherd Ministries

Thank you for the ongoing support of St Jude's. We would like prayers for the following intentions:

- For the continuing protection of our service users against COVID-19 infection.
- For the continuing success of our efforts to support formerly homeless service users through our Housing First programme.
- For the families who come to us to receive food and other assistance.
- Pray for the Brothers of the Good Shepherd and everyone who serves in this mission work.

CONTACTING ST JUDE'S

Vicar day off - Saturday	Rev Philip Robertson	827214	philipsrobertson@virginmedia.com
Church Wardens	James Sturgeon	269743	jmmsturgeon@gmail.com
	Pradip Sudra	334257	pradipsudra@gmail.com
Occasional Minister	Rev Ivor Saunders	751162	ivor.john@outlook.com
Children	Nicky Robertson	827214	nicky_is@hotmail.com
Parish Office	CLOSED		

Our building is open for Worship (recordings online through YouTube / Facebook Group / Website)

St Jude's Church, c/o The Vicarage 21A St Jude's Road, Wolverhampton, WV6 0EB

YouTube Channel: St Jude's Church Wolverhampton Facebook.com/ St Judes Church Community

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com/wolverhampton-st-judes