Sunday@Seven January 2023 What's in the Offing?

Welcome

God is working his purpose out, as year succeeds to year, God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near; nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west, wherever feet have trod, by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God, 'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles , give ear to me, that the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea'.

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase the love of God in all mankind, the reign of the Prince of peace? What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea?

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed; vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed; yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

Opening Prayer

God outside of time, who is part of our past, part of our present and part of our future. As we begin this new year, may we recognise and remember all that has gone before and look forward to all that will be. Jesus, our great Redeemer and Saviour, who journeys into this new year with us, we come to worship you. Amen.

Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness, opened my eyes, let me see. Beauty that made this heart adore you, hope of a life spent with you.

So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that you're my God; you're altogether lovely, altogether worthy, altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above; humbly you came to the earth you created, all for love's sake became poor.

Reading & Reflection - Ecclesiastes 3 v 1-8

One more step along the world I go, One more step along the world I go, from the old things to the new, keep me travelling along with you.

And its from the old I travel to the new, keep me travelling along with you. Round the corners of the world I turn,

more and more about the world I learn. And the new things that I see you'll be looking at along with me.

And its...

As I travel through the bad and good keep me travelling the way I should. Where I see no way to go you'll be telling me the way, I know.

And its...

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving though the world is tough. Leap and sing in all I do, keep me travelling along with you.

And its...

You are older than the world can be you are younger than the life in me.

Ever old and ever new, keep me travelling along with you.

And its....

Reading & Reflection – James 4 v 13-17

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, Worship his Holy Name. Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your Holy Name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning; it's time to sing Your song again. Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,

let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul

You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger. Your Name is great, and your heart is kind. For all your goodness, I will keep on singing; Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul

And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near, and my time has come; Still my soul will sing your praise unending: Ten thousand years and then for evermore!

Bless the Lord, O my soul

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord Jesus, we give you thanks and praise that you are always with us, no matter what. When we are rejoicing, when we are weeping, when we are mourning, when we need to speak up, when we need to be silent, you are with us. Thank you, that you are a faithful God who lives beyond the bounds of time, always close, never far away. Amen.

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee; take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of Thy love; take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my king; take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose. Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine: take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at Thy feet its treasure store: take myself, and I will be ever, only, all, for Thee.

Have your say.....

A song to lead us into our prayer time.

Now when peace like a river attendeth my soul,

and when sorrows like sea billows roll; then whatever my lot, you have taught me to say

it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul, when the storms of winter blow, and the cares of this world take their toll. In the heat of the day there is grace enough to say

it is well, it is well with my soul.

And when Satan should tempt me, and trials should

come,

let this blessed assurance control; for he sees every weakness and knows every fear,

and has shed his own blood for my soul.

It is well with my soul, when the storms of winter blow,

Space for quiet reflection and shared prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for your presence with us.

In trouble and in joy, you are always there. Help us to see where you were with us last year, and open our eyes to new opportunities in this new year. Amen.

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 forever. Amen.

The day Thou gavest Lord is ended , The darkness falls at Thy behest ; To Thee our morning hymns ascended, Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping, While earth rolls onward into light, Through all the world her watch is keeping , And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island The dawn leads on another day, The voice of prayer is never silent , Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun, that bids us rest, is waking Our brethren 'neath the western sky , And hour by hour fresh lips are making Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it Lord Thy throne shall never, Like earth's proud empires pass away; Thy kingdom stands and grows for ever, Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.

We say the Grace together -

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen. Next Sunday @ Seven February 26th at 7pm

Hungry & Thirsty?

We will be reviewing our spiritual menu - Are we feeling nicely replete or still a bit empty? Some refreshment needed perhaps? We will meet at Christ Church Hall. Or you can join in via Zoom.

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