



# Church Alive Worship for Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September



Welcome to our Church Alive service. Whilst we are not all together in church, we are together in spirit. We have tried to adapt our normal service from screen to paper and have provided links to music where possible if you would like to sing. *A big thank you to Debbie Thomson for recording the songs for us. These can be found on our YouTube channel with the links under the title – just hover and click on it*

Today we celebrate Jesus as Lord and remember how much he gave up to come alongside us. He set aside his divinity to live a human life and to die on the cross and this amazing act of love and service saved us. To follow him is to try and live with the same attitude of humility and love, putting the needs of others above our own.

**Opening Song:** All That I Am  
<https://youtu.be/lezriUVuNgo>

*All that I am,  
I lay before you;  
All I possess, Lord, I confess,  
Is nothing without you.  
Saviour and King,  
I now enthrone you;  
Take my life, my living sacrifice to you.*

1. Lord, be the strength within my weakness,  
Be the supply in every need  
That I may prove your promises to me,  
Faithful and true in word and deed.

*Chorus*

2. Into your hands I place the future;  
The past is nailed to Calvary  
that I may live in resurrection power -  
No longer I but Christ in me.

*Chorus*

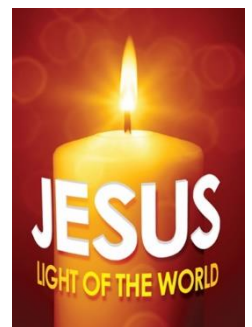
## Thanksgiving



What would you like to say thank you to God for today and this week?  
Take a moment to say thank you now.

**Opening Prayer:** *If you are able, and it is safe to do so, light a candle at this point*

Lord, we light this candle, to remind us that you are the light of the world. As we gather together in spirit, make our voices ready to sing your praise; our hearts open to receive your love and our minds alive to your Spirit. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



## **We seek God's healing and forgiveness**

We come to God as one from whom no secrets are hidden, to ask for his forgiveness and peace.

We sometimes think that the more we have the happier we will be:

**Lord, we ask for your forgiveness**

We sometimes turn the other way, closing our eyes and ears, ignoring what we see, choosing to neglect those asking for help:

**Lord, we ask for your forgiveness**

Sometimes we refuse a helping hand to those in need – we want to do 'our thing' instead.:

**Lord, we ask for your forgiveness**

## **We hear words assuring us of God's forgiveness**

May the God of love and power

forgive us and free us from our sins,

heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,

and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Bible Reading – Philippians 2:1-13, Christ's Humility and Greatness, Good News Translation (GNT).**

<sup>1</sup> Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit, and you have kindness and compassion for one another. <sup>2</sup> I urge you, then, to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind. <sup>3</sup> Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble toward one another, always considering others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own. <sup>5</sup> The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had:

<sup>6</sup> He always had the nature of God,  
but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God.

<sup>7</sup> Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had,  
and took the nature of a servant.

He became like a human being  
and appeared in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup> He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death—  
his death on the cross.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason God raised him to the highest place above  
and gave him the name that is greater than any other name.

<sup>10</sup> And so, in honour of the name of Jesus  
all beings in heaven, on earth, and in the world below  
will fall on their knees,

<sup>11</sup> and all will openly proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> So then, dear friends, as you always obeyed me when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey me now while I am away from you. Keep on working with fear and trembling to complete your salvation, <sup>13</sup> because God is always at work in you to make you willing and able to obey his own purpose.

**Introducing the Theme & Learning Spaces** *Not being able to break out into our learning spaces, here are a few thoughts about the theme for today prepared by Brenda. For young people you can use the Children's and Youth sheets that are being sent out separately.*

Jesus gave up so much to save us. He set aside his divinity and embraced a human life. He humbly walked the way of the cross for us. But we seem to find it very hard to follow his example; to live humbly, serving others. We often find it hard to put others needs above our own, especially if that puts us at a disadvantage. But does it matter if something is not advantageous to us, if it helps others? Like wearing a mask. When we wear a mask we are putting others needs first and protecting them. When we buy Fairtrade we are putting others needs first because we know those farmers and workers are not exploited but paid a fair amount for their work that can support their families. When we buy environmentally friendly product and reuse, recycle and repair we are putting the needs of our planet and future generations first. How can you live more



**All Age Creative – Challenge chart** - Make a reminder to think about others during the week

You will need: large sheets of coloured paper, pens, craft items, glue.

Draw round your hand six times onto a large sheet of coloured paper. Across the top write 'Colour in a hand every time I think of others first', Decorate the rest of your chart. Use the chart during the week

**Picture Reflection** – prepared by Brenda



**Make my joy complete - Philippians 2:1-13**

The psalmist in Psalm 25 wrote: 'Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths'

- Spend a few minutes with the image...
- Where do you see yourself in this picture....are you needing help or are you helping others?
- What does the keyhole represent to you?
- Reflect on relationships within your family and with your friends....where do the different people fit into this picture?

- Who, within our church community and the wider community, could be identified as being in need? How do we feel called to respond to them?
- During the covid crisis we were called to support 'key workers' ...who do we feel are 'key workers' in our lives?
- Reflect on times when you have found joy in helping others....

*May we seek the way and the truth of God. Amen*

**Song:** Before The Throne Of God Above

<https://youtu.be/HOapZJrvQAM>

1. Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me

Because the sinless Saviour died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heav'n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

3. Behold Him there, the risen Lamb  
My perfect, spotless Righteousness  
The great unchangeable I AM  
The King of glory and of grace

2. When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end of all my sin

One with Himself, I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Saviour and my God  
With Christ my Saviour and my God

**O Lord, Hear Our Prayers** *Here are a few suggested pics for you to pray about. If you have specific prayers you would like included in future weeks then do send them to Linda and she will add them in*

We pray for...

*God's world:* We pray for places where uprising and violence have arisen from a lack of love for each other's needs, leading to increased incidences of injustice and inequality.

*Our communities:* We pray for this parish of West End, Townhill and Harefield.  
For all activities that promote care for neighbour and stranger and for the schools and their staff as they prepare to safely welcome their pupils for the new school year.

*God's church:* We pray for the global Church, for all who witness and worship in Jesus' name: Bless us and prepare us to be ready to take up our crosses and step out in service and mission in the places where we live, work and find recreation.

*All who are sick:* We offer prayers for all who are struggling with frailty and illness. Lord of life, bless with peace of body and mind everyone who calls on Your name, and send Your mercy on all whose earthly life is drawing to a close.

*For those who have died:* Comfort those who mourn and all unable to attend funerals to say their farewells because of the restrictions in place, not forgetting all whose world has changed

immeasurably following the death of a loved one. Gather all who have died into Your eternal kingdom.

*Thanksgiving:* Lord, we give thanks that You are always there for us and help us to carry the crosses we have to bear. Strengthen our faith, teach us to love rather than hate, to strive to live in harmony with one another.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen

**We say the 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.

**Song: Will You Come and Follow Me**

<https://youtu.be/LGuuoEyOymc>

1. Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
Will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown  
In you and you in me?

2. Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
In you and you in me?

3. Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
And do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in me?

4. Will you love the you inside  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
Where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In you and you in me.

**Sending Out Prayer**

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,  
but in humility  
regard others as better than yourselves.  
Let each of you look not  
to your own interests,  
but to the interests of others.  
**May we go, Lord God,  
to meet the needs of others  
and share the love we have from you.  
Amen.**

*(Philippians 2.3-4)*

**The Peace**

Go in the light and peace of Christ  
**Thanks be to God**

