

Traditional Home service Sunday 27th March

OPENING PRAYER

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith:

*God of mercy, we acknowledge that we are all sinners. We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done, and are mindful of all that we have failed to do. For the sake of Jesus, who died for us, forgive us for all that is past, and help us to live each day in the light of Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

PRAISE

Let everything be said and done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through Jesus Christ. Sing psalms, hymns and sacred songs:

Let us sing to God with thankful hearts. Open our lips, Lord:
and we shall praise your name.

HYMN 1 (*Great is Thy faithfulness*)

READINGS - Exodus 2.1-10
2 Corinthians 1.3-7
Luke 2.33-35

TALK

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, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Spend some time praying for our nation, our community and our families.

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.

HYMN 2 (*Love divine, all loves excelling*)

CONCLUSION

Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you all; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

HYMNS TO USE

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my
Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not, Thy compassions,
they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever will be

Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath
provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me

2 Summer and winter and springtime and
harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses
above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that
endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide
Strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow
Blessings all mine with 10, 000 beside

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art.
Visit us with thy salvation;
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast.
Let us all in thee inherit,
let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver,
let us all thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
nevermore they temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish, then, thy new creation;
true and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee.
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Sermon - Louise Morton

Think about the context of the story of Moses in the bulrushes

Context slavery, crippling hard labour, and infanticide!

Context of few verses from Luke, occupation, poverty, foretelling of grief!

This was not comfy living ! This was survival, hardship etc....born in the 60s been part of a generation had it generally quite comfy! Could feel life, our society our values quite firm lasting..

The last couple of years turned that on its head, it was actually not true any way ! Life is fragile, our systems are fragile, pandemic! Now see this horrifically displayed in what's happened and happening in Ukraine.

Theme of trust, years ago now! One of first Mother's Day talk I did was based on Moses mother,

Three points ! 1.Nurture how he was loved. Set the scene....Moses mother saw her baby as special! Of course! She hid him for 3months! Would of been stressful!

2.Trusting him to God

Set the scene, famous story! Placing her baby in a waterproofed basket, still have Moses baskets!

Sister watching, mother had done her part, they would now see what would happen to him.

We know the story.....

Trust strand I want to develop today...

Know I did this as a parent felt like a decision I made, coming from generations of worriers ! On both sides !

Eg our daughters trip to France.....post sixth form, with two friends....

The woman took her baby home and nursed him 😊.

3. Letting go must of been hard.... She had been paid to look after her own baby!

Pharaohs daughter you would imagine had a pretty good idea she was being played? And went along with it?

Perhaps she hated her fathers murderous streak? She wanted to do her bit?

Return to trust...

Much indebted to a book I've cram read !

This week, Ruthless Trust !

Things I may have thought or known already but not put into words.....certainly not researched as he has!

Ruthless? Trust is a rare and precious thing because it often demands a degree of courage that borders on the heroic!

One thing I'm not touching on, but also a beautiful topic! How the Lord trusts us! He gives us responsibilities, he works alongside us to see his kingdom purposes unfold, truly amazing and wonderful, also precarious, part of the beauty of it.....

So Why Trust? Why grow and develop it, why think about it....

Idea from reading, but love the thought of it ! Trust makes God happy! Pleases Him.. trust is our gift back to God and he finds it so enchanting that Jesus died for love of it. He calls us to become like little children, Luke 18 story of him welcoming the children who were being ushered away by the disciples parents scolded for bothering Jesus!

Verse 17 I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.

children in proper nurturing relationships, trust! Seeing it all again in our grandson, how he trusts, how at our mercy he is, yet he trusts and his trust is not misplaced ! We love him!

John 14 verse 1 Jesus reassures his disciples: don't be troubled, Trust in God and trust in me,

Trust Makes God smile 😊

Second Why, it's good for us ! Redeems us from fear

Brennan Manning calls our second conversion which needs renewing daily, going from mistrust to trust.

"sovereign deliverance from a warehouse of worry!" I Loved this phrase!

Who would not want this!

Trust he says delivers a mortal blow to skepticism, cynicism, self condemnation and despair!

They can't cohabit! Makes sense when you think about it....

He sights all kinds of stories of ancient mystics !

Trusting God gives us a security that can't be robbed a deep down peace, prevents our hearts being troubled.. back to the John 14 reference...there's a humility to it, in the end worry can often be rooted in pride.....

Abraham and David masters at developed trust, their trust came through testing! use some David psalms for prayers after...

In the end trust Makes us smile! 😊 Gives stability to life that is beyond circumstances..

How? How do we grow trust in God in our lives...

Thankfulness, celebrating the feast of life one day at a time...

Spoke about thankfulness a couple of times lately, simplicity to it..

Matthew our son told me about an everyday happening that undid him recently, our grandson is just 19 months old and just stating to put words together, they had taken Jonah to a soft play place in a pub, having a drink etc.. he gave Jonah some crisps (sure they were the fancy baby ones 😂) Jonah said: Thank you Dada..

Warmed an earthly fathers heart, being thankful warms our heavenly fathers heart!

Let's keep being thankful little things big things...keep the sense of wonder, keep the child like delight...being outside this time of year, beauty...

Children's work helps ! Gasp as the chandelier came on...

Holly and I often have had conversations about how excited we get over pots of glitter etc... why not! Let's enjoy the every day.....

1Thess 5v18 be thankful in all circumstances for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

Thankfulness beautiful! Brennan manning its : Inclusive, attentive, contagious, and Theo centric.

The root of joy is gratefulness, not the other way round!

Yes!

Again

Makes us smile ! 😊 Let's all keep up the narrative: thank you dada!

Second How, dealing with the obstacles, things that block hinder trust, all kinds...

Talk like this can only glance at each...

Wrong images of God ... freedom in Christ stuff, if we don't have a true picture of who God is, completely understandable! we won't be able to trust freely, for example if we see him as a hard task master, or vindictive...

Amnesia, so true! we forget how He has blessed us, how he has shown his love, see it so clearly displayed in the Old Testament many times the prophets remind the people of Israel of His past goodness, so often they forget and go their own way...so often we forget!

Another Laziness, because trust requires something from us !

Presumption ! We are disappointed with God, and refuse to trust him, because we expected him to do our bit!

Examples..... Praying for a great exam result having not revised..

Brennan manning coming from a recovery background sites those who want prayer to deal with their addictions and Hod to sort it, without being prepared to go through the recovery process.

Some things are our bit, and he is trusting us ! To do our part...

So that's a few glances, at some obstacles to trust....

Something cannot be ignored when looking at the subject of trust. is pain, suffering, evil! Gerald May: used to believe trusting God's goodness meant I would not be hurt, But having been hurt quite a bit! I know God's goodness goes deeper than all pleasure and pain, it embraces them both.

Job 13v15 : even though he slay me, yet will I trust him!

No neat answers, mystery, dear people of Ukraine living the experience that all may be shaken,
Yet we can trust God is bigger, he is beyond our thinking, beyond our experience, he is glory, crushing majesty, unapproachable holiness.

Posh words to balance on my trusty bicycle!
Used this example before! Imagine one on each pedal! 🚲

Immanence and transcendence!
Easier language infinite yet intimate!
St Augustine : more intimate than my deepest self and higher than my utmost peak.

Manning : ‘ The Abba of Jesus,, who is infinitely compassionate with my brokenness and at the same time an awesome, incomprehensible and unwieldy mystery.’

Last How ! Trust happens when we allow ourselves to be loved, we grow trust by being open to God loving us as we are.

Eric Liddell chariots of fire: God made me fast and when I run I feel his pleasure...

A Biblical picture of God, is a mother hen gathering her chicks 🐣

They are open and trusting of their mother hens care, love?

Seeing again as I've mentioned our grandson, he lives open to his parents love, our love...

He trusts, such delight in my heart when I knew he trusted me! Think how magnified that must be as each of us make the decision to trust our Heavenly Father, to say yes, Papa,snuggle in...

Let us grow that kind of trust in us for Father God, for Jesus, for the dear Holy Spirit, open to their embrace to come under their wings, whatever the storms, to reside in that place of safety....

Amen