THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS' SANDERSTEAD

Extending God's Welcome to All. Committed to Grow – in Discipleship, Service and Numbers.

PARISH PRAISE

Sunday 10th January 2021



A warm welcome to Parish Praise, in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! Today is the First Sunday of Epiphany, when the Church traditionally commemorates the baptism of Jesus and his anointing with the Holy Spirit.

We continue our series on The Psalms as Revd Canon Martin Greenfield preaches on Psalm 103: "The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love".

In the midst of all the challenges we are currently facing, let us remember we have much to thank God for. His loving-kindness never fails, and his steadfast love remains for ever.

OPENING HYMN: Great is Thy Faithfulness

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4ox4es1jo8

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 wilt 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!

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.

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 ten thousand beside!

Thomas Obadiah Chisholm (1866-1960)

MEDITATION: "Supported by Prayer" written and read by Angela Jones

When my hope seems to fade
They carry it to God in prayer
When my way ahead appears to be dim
Someone is praying for light
When storms of life threaten
They are pleading for calm
When words are hard to find
Someone is praying silently
When my strength might fail
They are there for support

When I yearn to seek

The Spirit of God is there

When I'm not sure

The Spirit of God leads the way

When I feel shaken

The Spirit of God holds me

When I don't know

The Spirit of God intercedes wordlessly

When I feel weak

The Spirit of God strengthens

Wherever I am

The Spirit of God is there

Wherever my journey takes me

The family of God is there

And when I forget even to think about making the tea Someone is putting on the kettle

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Psalm 103

- ¹ Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
- ² Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits –
- ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,
- by who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his deeds to the people of Israel:
- * the Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.
- ⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he harbour his anger for ever;
- he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities.

- ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his love for those who fear him;
- ¹² as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.
- ¹³ As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;
- ¹⁴ for he knows how we are formed, he remembers that we are dust.
- 15 The life of mortals is like grass, they flourish like a flower of the field;
- 16 the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.
- 17 But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children -
- with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.
- 19 The Lord has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.
- Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.
- ²¹ Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.
- Praise the Lord, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the Lord, my soul.

SONG: The Steadfast Love of the Lord never ceases

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBX_YvQ8BKE

THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD NEVER CEASES,

His mercies never come to an end, They are new every morning, new every morning Great is Thy faithfulness (Oh Lord) Great is Thy faithfulness.

Mark 1:4-11

⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptised by him in the River Jordan. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And this was his message: 'After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with he Holy Spirit.'

The baptism and testing of Jesus

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptised by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.'

SONG: WHAT A FAITHFUL GOD!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iuljQ3ueaxk

LORD, I COME BEFORE YOUR THRONE OF GRACE

I find rest in Your presence And fullness of Joy In worship and wonder I behold Your face Singing what a faithful God have I

> What a faithful God have I What a faithful God What a faithful God have I Faithful in every way

Lord of mercy, You have heard my cry Through the storm You're the beacon My song in the night In the shelter of Your wings Hear my heart's reply Singing what a faithful God have I What a faithful God have I What a faithful God What a faithful God have I Faithful in every way

Lord all sovereign granting peace from heaven Let me comfort those who suffer With the comfort You have given I will tell of Your great love For as long as I live Singing what a faithful God have I

Source: Musixmatch Songwriter: Robert Critchley

STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

INTERCESSIONS followed by 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

SERMON

CLOSING HYMN: Faithful One, So Unchanging

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqK-UnsRTFI

FAITHFUL ONE, SO UNCHANGING

Ageless one, you're my rock of peace Lord of all I depend on you I call out to you, again and again I call out to you, again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble You lift me up when I fall down All through the storm Your love is, the anchor My hope is in You alone

Brian Doerksen

BLESSING

May God, who in Christ, gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory;

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.