

Order of Service
September 10, 2023

Welcome & announcements

- * Land Acknowledgment
- * Celebrations & Concerns
- * Birthdays & Anniversaries
- * Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to worship

VU 839

Psalm 119

Part Three (33-40) He*

* letter of the Hebrew alphabet

Teach me, O God, the way of your statutes,
and I will keep it unto the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

Incline my heart to your testimonies,
and not to selfish gain! R

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
and give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise,
which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach which I dread,
for your ordinances are good.

Behold, I long for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life!

Hymn: Joyful, joyful we adore you
VU 232

Joyful, joyful we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2

All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.

3

You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

4

Mortals join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Opening prayer and confession

God of grace and glory...

(Minister continues with Prayer)

**God of majesty and mercy,
although Jesus offers us peace,
we confess we are a people divided.
We harbour fears and jealousy
which set neighbour against neighbour,
nation against nation.
We pursue profit and pleasures which harm creation
and the well-being of less privileged peoples.
Have mercy upon us, O God.
Set us free from our old ways
to serve you as agents of your reconciling love
in Jesus Christ. Amen**

Assurance of pardon & The Lord's prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Greeting Christ in All of Us - Passing the Peace

The ministry of music: Our choir presents...

Children's hymn: Amazing grace boogie

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
was blind but now I see

Fill up my cup, Lord, let it overflow
Fill up my cup, Lord, let it overflow
Fill up my cup, Lord, let it overflow
Let it overflow with love

A time for all God's children

Invitation to the Offering

The offering: We give thee but thine own

We give thee but thine own

What e'er the gift may be

All that we have is thine alone.

A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

Offertory Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

New testament reading. Romans 13: 8-11 *English Standard Version*

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

May God bless to our understanding this reading of Holy Scripture

Amen

Hymn: Be strong in the Lord

(Tune: Hanover VU 235)

1.

Be strong in the Lord In armour of light,
With helmet and sword, With shield for the fight;
On prayer be dependent, Be belted and shod,
In breastplate resplendent: The armour of God.

2

Integrity gird You round to impart
The truth of His Word As truth in your heart;
His righteousness wearing As breastplate of mail,
His victory sharing, Be strong to prevail.

3.

With eagerness shod Stand firm in your place,
Or go forth for God With news of His Grace
No foe shall disarm you Nor force you to yield,
No arrow can harm you With faith as your shield.

4.

Though Satan presume To test you and try,
In helmet and plume Your head shall be high;
Beset by temptation Be true to your Lord,
Your helmet salvation And Scripture your sword.

5.

So wield well your blade, Rejoice in its powers,
Fight on undismayed For Jesus is ours!
Then in Him victorious Your armour lay down,
To praise, ever glorious, His cross and His crown.

Sermon: Christianity 101: Believing for Beginners

Benediction

Hymn: Love is the touch

MV 89 (Tune: Slane - VU 642)

1.

Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;

love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

2.

Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

3.

Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.

4.

Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.