



Trinity Church Mill Hill (United Reformed and Methodist)



Minister: Revd. David Newton

Charity No: 1140176

CCLI Nos. 117239, 1305772, 1305789 & 1697260

Sunday 10 March 2024

Worship this morning is led by a Worship Group
Organist/Pianist: Tim Peake

The Congregation stands to receive the Bible.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

God our Father, your Son, Jesus Christ
lived in a family at Nazareth.

As we meet together now help us to learn
more about what it is to love our families
and friends as you love us.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Introduction to the theme

Hymn, StF102, For the beauty of the earth

For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

*Gracious God, to you we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above;
pleasures pure and undefiled:

For each perfect gift and sign
of your love so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835 – 1917).

Prayer of Confession

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Loving God, we give thanks for all who care for us,
who have encouraged us and helped us grow,
who have supported us when times were hard,
who have challenged us, who have told us about you.
Nurturing God, we give you thanks.

Amen

Today we thank God for the gift of mothers and the mother-like
nurture that many people show to us and to others.

Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us, comforting and carrying us
in her arms. 'As one whom a mother comforts, so I will comfort you'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us.

He knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children.

'Can a woman forget her sucking child that she should have
no compassion on the child of her womb?

Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

David wrote that in God's presence, he was quiet and at peace, trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms.

'But I have calmed and quieted my soul like a child quieted at his mother's breast, like a child that is quiet is my soul'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself as a mother, longing to wrap his arms around us, like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings.

'How often would I have gathered your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings and you would not'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care.

'I was gentle among you like a nurse taking care of her children'

Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Amen

Hymn, StF81, Now thank we all our God

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

*Martin Rinkart (1586 – 1649),
Tr Catherine Winkworth (1827 – 78).*

Bible Reading:

Exodus 2 :1 – 10
The Birth of Moses

Reflection

Hymn, StF409, Let us build a house where love can dwell

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions
*All are welcome,
all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

Marty Haugen, © 1994 GIA Publications Inc, Chicago

Bible Reading:

Luke 15: 1-3 and 11b – 32
Finding the Lost

Reflection

Hymn, StF611, Brother, Sister, let me serve you

Brother, Sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,

and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, Sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

*Richard A M Gillard (b1953).
©1977 Scripture in Song.)*

Bible Reading:

John 2: 1 – 11
Signs and Discourses

Reflection

Bible Reading:

Luke 8: 19 – 21
Miracles and Parables

Reflection

Music for reflection

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, as a mother hen gathers her chicks, so you long to shield us from the harm that threatens us, or that we bring upon ourselves.

We know how easily we romanticise motherhood by thinking only of idealistic images; we pray for all women, and particularly mothers, mindful of the demands our society places on them, mindful of the pressures we place on them, knowing that we could offer more in the way of support. Lord, father and mother to us all
Help us to care as much as you care for us.

We pray for mothers, and those in mothering roles, denied the opportunities that most of us – male, or richer, or child-free by choice – enjoy; for some the opportunity to make even simple choices, for others the choices that come from building careers, knowing that we are part of one humanity, one family: Lord, father and mother to us all,
Help us to care as much as you care for us.

We pray for mothers and fathers, women and men, where they go without so that their children can eat, where it is difficult to build a safe and secure home, where, for some, hope of any kind is not easy to find, whether this is through economic ills, or the result of war and violence, or any other threat.
Lord, father and mother to us all,
Help us to care as much as you care for us.

We pray for families in which children are threatened by gangs, or drugs, or street violence, or sexual abuse and exploitation, for Mothers and carers who fear that their ‘wings’ are no longer enough to protect the family from the storms of life
Lord, father and mother to us all,
Help us to care as much as you care for us
Amen

Strong yet gentle God, hear our prayer of gratitude for all mothers. We give thanks not only for the Mother figures in our own lives, but for the work and witness of women and men in parenting roles, in all times and in all places, as we acknowledge the importance of their contribution to the fulness of life that is your will for each and every one of us. In Jesus' name we pray
Amen

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.**

Offertory and Dedication

Loving God, you uphold us from birth to death, and through all life's changes, with your grace and love. In gratitude for all the love we have received throughout our lives, may we be always ready to help those who are struggling to protect the vulnerable, to feed the hungry, and to comfort the broken. Accept these gifts of money and flowers as symbols of our ongoing love for those to whom we give them, and may we all be blessed in giving and receiving in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Distribution of Flowers

Hymn, StF487, You shall go out with joy - sung twice

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.

Stuart Dauermann (b. 1944) and Steffi Geiser Rubin

Dismissal and Blessing

May God the Father keep us in his care.
May the Lord Jesus Christ be our constant friend
and the Holy Spirit guide us in all that we do
now and always

Amen

Sung Amen, R&S 20(b).



Notices

Services in March

- March 17th Revd. David Newton. Church Meeting.
March 24th Palm Sunday. Dr. Richard Bingle.
March 28th **8pm.**Maundy Thursday Service in the Chapel. Revd. David Newton.
March 29th Good Friday. **10am** Mill Hill Churches United Service at The Eversfield Centre followed by the Walk of Witness.
March 31st Easter Day **11am.** Revd. David Newton.

Services will be both in church and available via Zoom, unless noted otherwise. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be served at the end of the Service. Do stay if you can.

Lent Appeal

Our Lent Appeal is for All We Can, The Methodist Church's Relief and Development Fund. Envelopes are available. Donations will be received until Palm Sunday, 24 March.

Fri 15 March. Third session of the Night Shelter at John Keble Church.

Thurs 21 March. Open House. "Entertainingly yours" Revd. John Steele and Chris Walker.

Birthday List

We would like to celebrate all church member birthdays by giving the flower display after each Sunday service, to the celebrant(s). The floral gift is yours to keep at home or give away. To make this happen we are putting together our church birthday diary. Please send your birth month to Alex Priddy at abedurc@gmail.com. Please note, you are also

welcome to share your birthdate, if you wish to be remembered on your special day. Thank you.



Do go on bringing contributions for the Foodbank. They are always greatly appreciated, and the need does not go down. Thank you to all who have been supporting this outreach to those in need in our local community.

Flower and Coffee rotas

Please sign up if you can help.

Offerings Paid by Cash

Due to changes made by banks, it has become increasingly difficult for us to bank offerings received in cash, whether in envelopes or placed on the offering plate. You are therefore asked, if possible, to make your offerings using an alternative method in future. There are a number of alternatives:

- by cheque, payable to Trinity Church Mill Hill
- by bank transfer to the church bank account, Sort Code 40-52-40, Account No: 00008484
- by Standing Order. A form to do this can be obtained from myself or from Zoe Kattah.

If you do not already do so, please consider Gift Aiding your offering, if you pay income tax, thereby Increasing the amount by 25%. A Gift Aid Declaration form can be obtained from Zoe or myself. Gift aided donations require you to use of an offering envelope.

Thank you for your help in this matter.
David Horrex. Freewill Offering and Gift Aid Secretary.

In the event that the emergency alarm sounds, leave the building calmly and immediately by the nearest escape route and assemble outside Pizza Express. Do not wait for instructions, do not use the lift.

Able-bodied be prepared to help those with impaired mobility if asked. Please note that the fire wardens in an emergency are the elders on duty each Sunday. The elder's duty rota is available on the notice.