

## PARISH OF LATHERON

### ORDER OF SERVICE – 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP:

Hymn 124

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation; praise God, my soul, for in him are your health and salvation; come all who hear, into his presence draw near, joining in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord, who in all things is wondrously reigning, shields you from harm and is gently yet firmly sustaining. Have you not seen how your heart's wishes have been granted by God's wise ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who with blessing and power will defend you; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you; ponder anew what the Almighty can do: God will for ever befriend you.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the Amen sound from God's people again: gladly for ever adore him.

#### PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 JOHN 3:16-24

<sup>10</sup> This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister.

#### **More on love and hatred**

<sup>11</sup> For this is the message you heard from the beginning: we should love one another. <sup>12</sup> Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his brother's were righteous. <sup>13</sup> Do not be surprised, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> if the world hates you. <sup>14</sup> We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other. Anyone who does not love remains in death. <sup>15</sup> Anyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer, and you know

that no murderer has eternal life residing in him.

<sup>16</sup> This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup> if our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: we know it by the Spirit he gave us.

#### HYMN 461

1. How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
and drives away his fear.
2. It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest.
3. Dear name! the rock on which I build,  
my shield and hiding place,  
my never-failing treasury, filled  
with boundless stores of grace.
4. Jesus, my Shepherd, Husband, Friend,  
my Prophet, Priest, and King,  
my Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,  
accept the praise I bring.
5. Weak is the effort of my heart,  
and cold my warmest thought;  
but, when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.
6. Till then I would thy love proclaim  
with every fleeting breath;  
and may the music of thy name  
refresh my soul in death.

SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 10: 11-18

<sup>11</sup> 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> 'I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me – <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that are not of this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.'

HYMN 501

1. Take this moment, sign and space;  
Take my friends around;  
here among us make the place  
where Your love is found.
2. Take the time to call my name,  
take the time to mend  
who I am and what I've been,  
and I've failed to tend.
3. Take the tiredness of my days,  
take my past regret,  
letting Your forgiveness touch  
all I can't forget.
4. Take the little child in me,  
scared of growing old;  
help me here to find my worth  
made in Christ's own mould.
5. Take my talents, take my skills,  
take what's yet to be;  
let my life be Yours, and yet,  
let it still be me.

REFLECTION

HYMN 556

1. I need thee every hour,  
most gracious Lord;  
no tender voice but thine  
can peace afford.  
[Refrain:]  
*I need thee, oh, I need thee,  
every hour I need thee;  
O bless me now, my Saviour,  
I come to thee.*
2. I need thee every hour,  
stay thou near by;  
temptations lose their power  
when thou art nigh. [Refrain]
3. I need thee every hour,  
in joy or pain;  
come quickly and abide,  
or life is vain. [Refrain]
4. I need thee every hour,  
teach me thy will;  
and thy rich promises  
in me fulfil. [Refrain]

PRAYER

Psalm 23

1. The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green: he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.
2. My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
even for his own name's sake.
3. Yea, though I walk through death's dark  
vale, yet will I fear none ill:  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.
4. My table thou hast furnishèd  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me:  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.

BENEDICTION

The only safe place for a sheep is by the side of His shepherd, because the devil does not fear sheep; he just fears the Shepherd. — A. W. Tozer