

## PARISH OF LATHERON

### ORDER OF SERVICE – 2nd MAY 2021

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP:

##### HYMN 43

1. O God, you are my God alone,  
whom eagerly I seek,  
though longing fills my soul with thirst  
and leaves my body weak.  
Just as a dry and barren land  
awaits a freshening shower,  
I long within your house to see  
your glory and your power.
2. Your faithful love surpasses life instead,  
Evoking all my praise.  
Through every day, to bless your name,  
my hands in joy I'll raise.  
My deepest needs you satisfy  
as with a sumptuous feast.  
So, on my lips and in my heart,  
your praise has never ceased.
3. Throughout the night I lie in bed  
and call you, Lord, to mind;  
in darkest hours I meditate  
how God, my strength is kind.  
Beneath the shadow of your wing,  
I live and feel secure;  
and daily as I follow close,  
your right hand keeps me sure.

##### PRAYER

##### SCRIPTURE READING 1 JOHN 4:7-21

#### **God's Love and Ours**

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. <sup>13</sup>This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup>And

so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. <sup>17</sup>This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.

<sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

##### HYMN 193

- 1 God is love: his the care,  
tending each, everywhere,  
God is love, all is there!  
Jesus came to show him,  
that we all might know him!  
Refrain:  
*Sing aloud, loud, loud!*  
*sing aloud, loud, loud!*  
*God is good! God is truth!*  
*God is beauty! Praise him!*
- 2 None can see God above;  
we can share life and love;  
thus may we Godward move,  
finding him in others,  
sisters all, and brothers[Refrain]
- 3 Jesus lived on the earth,  
hope and life brought to birth  
and affirmed human worth,  
for he came to save us  
by the truth he gave us. [Refrain]

##### SCRIPTURE READING JOHN 15:1-8

#### **The Vine and the Branches**

**15** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup>He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup>You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. <sup>5</sup>"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are

like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

#### HYMN 604

1. Holy Wisdom, lamp of learning  
bless the light that reason lends.  
Teach us judgment as we kindle  
sparks of thought your Spirit sends.  
Sanctify our search for knowledge  
and the truth that sets us free.  
Come, illumine mind and spirit  
joined in deepest unity.
2. Vine of truth, in you we flourish; by your  
grace we learn and grow. May the word of  
Christ among us shape our life, our search  
to know. Joined to Christ in living, dying,  
may we help the church convey witness to  
the saving gospel, bearing fruit of faith  
today.
3. Holy God, the hope of nations,  
Tune us to your righteous will,  
As the symphony of ages  
Claims our best, our finest skill.  
Shape our search for peace and justice  
Through prophetic deed and word,  
Christ conduct us, set our rhythm,  
That God's praise be ever heard.

#### REFLECTION

#### HYMN 115

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 pathway the saints all have trod:  
God is where love is, for love is of God.

#### PRAYER

#### HYMN 562

1. Through the love of God, our Saviour,  
all will be well.  
Free and changeless is his favour;  
all, all is well.  
Precious is the blood that healed us,  
perfect is the grace that sealed us,  
strong the hand stretched forth to shield  
us;  
all must be well.
2. Though we pass through tribulation,  
all will be well.  
Ours is such a full salvation,  
all, all is well.  
Happy still in God confiding,  
fruitful, if in Christ abiding,  
holy, through the Spirit's guiding;  
all must be well.
3. We expect a bright tomorrow;  
all will be well.  
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,  
'All, all is well.'  
On our Father's love relying,  
Jesus every need supplying,  
in our living, in our dying,  
all must be well.

#### BENEDICTION