

## PARISH OF LATHERON

### ORDER OF SERVICE – 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: (from John 15:9-12)

As God our Father has loved us, so Christ has loved you;

**Abide in Christ's love.**

If you keep Christ's commandments,

**We will abide in Christ's love.**

Christ said these things to us so that God's joy may be in you,

**And that our joy may be complete.**

This is Christ's commandment:

**That we love one another as Christ has loved us.**

#### HYMN 113

1. God the Father of Creation,  
source of life and energy,  
your creative love so shapes us  
That we share your liberty.  
Teach us how to use this freedom  
loving children all to be.  
loving children all to be.
2. Jesus Christ our Lord and brother,  
in your cross we see the way  
to be servants for each other,  
caring, suffering every day.  
Teach us patience and obedience  
never from your path to stray.  
never from your path to stray.
3. Holy Spirit, love that binds us  
to the Father and the Son,  
giver of the joy that fills us,  
yours the peace that makes us one,  
teach our hearts to be more open  
as we pray 'God's will be done.'  
as we pray 'God's will be done.'
4. Members of our Saviour's body,  
here on earth his life to be,  
though we stand as different people,  
may we share the unity  
of the Father, Son and Spirit,  
perfect love in Trinity.  
perfect love in Trinity.

#### PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING: ACTS 10:44-48

<sup>44</sup> While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. <sup>45</sup> The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. <sup>46</sup> For they heard them speaking in tongues<sup>[a]</sup> and praising God.

Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup> "Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have." <sup>48</sup> So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

#### HYMN 547

1. What a Friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
Oh what peace we often forfeit,  
oh what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations,  
is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Jesus is our only refuge:  
take it to the Lord in prayer;  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In His arms He'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

#### SCRIPTURE READING: JOHN 15: 9-17

<sup>9</sup> "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than

this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: Love each other.

#### HYMN 595

1. O Breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your Church with life and power;  
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your Church to meet this hour.
2. O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,  
till humbly we confess our need;  
then in your tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore, for this we plead.
3. O Breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your Church in every part.
4. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,  
equip your Church to spread the light.

#### REFLECTION

#### HYMN 724

1. Christ's is the world in which we move.  
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love,  
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,  
and Christ is the One who meets us here.  
*To the lost Christ shows his face;  
to the unloved he gives his embrace;  
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,  
Christ, makes, with his friends, a touching  
place.*
2. Feel for the people we most avoid.  
Strange or bereaved or never employed;  
Feel for the women and feel for the men  
who fear that their living is all in vain.
3. Feel for the parents who've lost their child,  
feel for the women whom men have defiled.  
feel for the baby for whom there's no breast,  
and feel for the weary who find no rest.

4. Feel for the lives by life confused.  
riddled with doubt, in loving abused;  
feel for the lonely heart, conscious of sin,  
which longs to be pure but fears to begin  
*To the lost Christ shows his face;  
to the unloved he gives his embrace;  
to those who cry in pain or disgrace,  
Christ, makes, with his friends, a touching  
place.*

#### PRAYER

#### HYMN 519

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us your humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more your temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

#### BENEDICTION

#### **Christian Aid Week Prayer**

---

Great God, Who makes the sun to rise, and  
opens the heavens Hear the cry of the  
people Who sow in hope for rain, but reap  
only despair Hear the cry of the people  
Seeking shelter from the storm, their hopes  
and homes submerged Hear the cry of the  
people, When creation is hitting back, with  
rage and resistance Give us hope, grant us  
salvation, Give us a new relationship with  
creation With reverence to tend this gift  
from You And say once again of the earth  
and all you created It is GOOD.

---

(Bob Kikuyu Global Theology Advisor, Christian Aid)