Sermon: Missions 101 - The Word of God in Action

Glory to God, the source of all our mission;

Jesus be praised, the Saviour, Lord and Son! Praise to the Spirit who confirms the vision; in all the world the will of God be done!

- 2. Proud in our wealth, or destitute and broken, we cannot live by earthly bread alone; but by the word that God himself has spoken we are set free to make our Master known.
- 3. Eastward or westward, northward, southward moving, finding new fields, new patterns and new roles, Christ's fellow-workers, all his goodness proving, see how our God is making people whole!
- 4. Linked by the cross at which we are forgiven, joined by the love that came to find and save, one in the hope of God's new earth and heaven, we love and give since he first loved and gave.
- 5. Send us, Lord Christ, to serve at your direction, dying and living, yours in loss and gain, true to the gospel of your resurrection, working and praying till you come to reign.

Christopher Idle $\ \ \$ Author / Jubilate Hymns | Tune: Lord for the Years

Benediction

Notices & Matters for Prayer

Welcome to Oxford Pres! Whether this is your first service with us, or you attend regularly, we offer you a warm welcome. Children's activity sheets and crayons are available on the welcome table. A crèche/feeding room with toilet & baby changing facilities is available downstairs via the lobby to the right of the gallery. Refreshments will be served immediately after the service

Sunday Evening Worship, 5pm: Andy will be preaching from Psalm 1

Thursday Midweek Meeting, 7-9pm: Please join us here at the North Gate Hall for ReCon, our regular study of Reformed Creeds and Confessions. Everyone is invited!

Women's Events: Book studies this Wednesday 7-9pm and Friday 10-12am, at Robin's house, and Craft Evening, this Friday, 7-9pm at Helena's house.

Next Bring and Share Lunch: Sunday, 28th April, followed by our kids' club from 1-1:45pm.

Please be responsible for your property and (parents) your children whilst you are with us. If you wish to be added to the church email list, please speak with Alberto or Andy.

*QR code for online giving:





Sunday, 14th April 2024, 10:30am

Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5

Prayer for God's Presence and Blessing

Praise God, my soul! With all my heart 2. He satisfies your deep desires

Let me exalt his holy name.
Forget not all his benefits;
His praise, my soul, in song proclaim.
The LORD forgives you all your sins,
And heals your sickness and distress;
Your life he rescues from the grave,
And crowns you in his tenderness (x2).

2. He satisfies your deep desires From his unending stores of good, So that, just like the eagle's strength, Your faithful vigour is renewed. The LORD is known for righteous acts And justice to downtrodden ones. To Moses he made known his ways, His mighty deeds to Israel's sons (x2).

3. The LORD is merciful and kind,
To anger slow, and full of grace.
He will not constantly reprove,
Or in his anger hide his face.
He does not punish our misdeeds,
Or give our sins their just reward.
How great his love – as high as heaven –
Towards all those who fear the LORD! (x2).

Psalm 103:1-11 | Sing Psalms | Tune: Before the Throne

Call to Confession

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger for ever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. For he knows our frame he remembers that we are dust.

Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with you! Restore to us the joy of your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field; for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more. But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments. The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all. Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will! Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder

consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

- 2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:
- 3. And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in; that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin:
- 4. When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

Stuart K Hine © 1949 and 1953 | Tune: How Great Thou Art

Children's Talk

Collection of Tithes and Offerings*

Prayer of Intercession

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to him belong.
Who holds our days within his hand?
What comes, apart from his command?
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah!
Our hope springs eternal;
O sing hallelujah!
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

- 2. What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.
 Where is his grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.
 Who holds our faith when fears arise?
 Who stands above the stormy trial?
 Who sends the waves that bring us nigh unto the shore, the rock of Christ?
- 3. Unto the grave, what will we sing? 'Christ, he lives; Christ, he lives!' And what reward will heaven bring? Everlasting life with him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be destroyed, and we will feast in endless joy, when Christ is ours for evermore.

Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Matthew Merker © 2020 Getty Music | Based on the Heidelberg Catechism

Prayer for Illumination

Bible Reading: Acts 13:13-52