

Bible Reading: Acts 19:1-20

Prayer for Understanding of God's Word

Sermon: Gospel Contrasts

**Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;**

Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art;  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me Lord;  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Be Thou my battle-shield, sword for the fight;  
Be Thou my armour and be Thou my might;  
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tower;  
Raise Thou me heavenward, O power of my power.

4. Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise;  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

5. High King of heaven, after victory won;  
May I reach heaven's joy, O bright heaven's sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Irish, c. 8<sup>th</sup> cent., tr. by Mary E Burne, 1880-1931 | Tune: Slane

**Benediction**

**Notices & Matters for Prayer**

**Welcome** to Oxford Pres! Children's activity sheets are available on the welcome table. A crèche/feeding room & toilet is available downstairs to the right of the gallery.

**Bring and Share Lunch** All are invited to stay after this morning's service to share lunch together.

**Evening Worship, 5pm** Andy will be preaching from Exodus 25.

**Home Groups** meet this Thursday from 5:30-7:30pm at the Atipaldis' and 7-9pm at Robin's.

**Ocean Explorers Holiday Bible Club** 28<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup> August, 9:30am-12:30pm. Flyers and booking forms are available on the welcome table and on our website.

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:



www.oxfordpres.co.uk | CCLI 1588630

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024, 10:30am

**Welcome & Notices**

**Call to Worship**

Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious. Say to God, 'How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.'

Psalm 66:1-4

**Introductory Prayer**

**Shout with joy to God, all nations,**

sing the glory of his name;  
praise with loudest acclamations!  
His tremendous deeds proclaim!  
All his foes in fear and trembling  
bow beneath his mighty arm,  
while all earth with joy assembling  
sounds his praise in song and psalm.

2. Come and see, with awe and wonder,  
see displayed the power of God:  
as he held the waves asunder,  
Israel crossed the sea dry-shod;  
praise him, then, with jubilation,  
who for ever rules by might,  
keeping watch lest any nation  
dare contest his sovereign right.

3. Praise him, who has stood beside us  
and not let our footsteps slide!  
In the fires of life you tried us  
till, like silver, purified:  
you sent fierce affliction to us,  
conquerors trampled on our head,  
yet through flame and flood you drew us  
and to peace and freedom led.

4. What thank-offering shall I render,  
my most solemn vows to pay,  
made to you, my strong defender,  
when I faced the evil day?  
Here I offer on your altar  
all I am and have and do;  
may my purpose never falter,  
all my life be spent for you.

5. Come and listen, all who fear him,  
hear what God has done for me:  
with my praises I drew near him  
and poured out my urgent plea;  
had I cherished sin within me,  
God would not have heard my prayer –  
praise him for the answer given me  
in his gracious love and care.

David G Preston © Author/Jubilate Hymns  
Psalm 66 | Tune: Austria

## Call to Confession

This is what the LORD says: 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting-place be? Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?' declares the LORD. 'These are the ones I look on with favour: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word.

Isaiah 66:1-2

## Confession of Sin

Lord God Almighty, our Maker, Sustainer and Righteous Judge, we have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in our daily lives. Our sins and shortcomings present us with a list of accusations, and before your holy law we are rightly condemned. Yet we thank you that they will not stand against us, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver us from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace, and everything that prevents us taking delight in you. Cleanse us from our sin, wash us clean in Jesus Christ, and help us to trust in his finished and accomplished work, and all for his glory. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

But now, this is what the LORD says – he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. Since you are precious and honoured in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. I will say to the north, "Give them up!" and to the south, "Do not hold them back." Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth – everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Isaiah 43:1-7

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**What gift of grace is Jesus, my redeemer;** there is no more for heaven now to give. He is my joy, my righteousness and freedom, my steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace. To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus, for my life is wholly bound to his. O, how strange and divine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

2. The night is dark but I am not forsaken, for by my side the Saviour he will stay; I labour on in weakness and rejoicing, for in my need his power is displayed. To this I hold: my Shepherd will defend me; through the deepest valley he will lead. O, the night has been won and I shall overcome! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

3. No fate I dread: I know I am forgiven, the future sure, the price it has been paid; for Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon and he was raised to overthrow the grave. To this I hold: my sin has been defeated! Jesus now and ever is my plea; O, the chains are released; I can sing: I am free! Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

4. With every breath I long to follow Jesus, for he has said that he will bring me home; and day by day I know he will renew me until I stand with joy before the throne. To this I hold: my hope is only Jesus, all the glory evermore to him; when the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat: 'Yet not I, but through Christ in me!'

Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson © 2018 CityAlight Music

## Children's Talk

### Collection of Tithes & Offerings\*

### Prayer of Intercession

### Confession of Faith

*Minister:* But why are you called a Christian?

*Congregation:* Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity.

Heidelberg Catechism 32

### Out of the depths I cry to you;

from darkest places I will call.

Incline your ear to me anew,  
and hear my cry for mercy, Lord.

2. Were You to count my sinful ways,  
how could I come before Your throne?  
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze;  
I stand, redeemed by grace alone.

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You,  
on your word I will rely;  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You  
till my soul is satisfied.*

3. So put your hope in God alone,  
take courage in His power to save;  
completely and forever won  
by Christ emerging from the grave.

4. His steadfast love has made a way,  
and God Himself has paid the price,  
that all who trust in Him today  
find healing in His sacrifice.

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You,  
on your word I will rely;  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You  
till my soul is satisfied.*

*I will wait for You, I will wait for You  
through the storm and through the night;  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You,  
for Your love is my delight*

Jordan Kaufflin | Keith Getty | Matthew Merker | Stuart Townend  
© 2018 Getty Music Publishing