

Sunday 9th March 2025, 5pm

Christ, the sure and steady anchor
in the fury of the storm,
when the winds of doubt blow through me
and my sails have all been torn;
in the suffering, in the sorrow,
when my sinking hopes are few,
I will hold fast to the anchor;
it shall never be removed.

3. Christ, the sure and steady anchor
through the floods of unbelief;
hopeless somehow, O my soul, now
lift your eyes to Calvary.
This, my ballast of assurance;
see his love forever proved;
I will hold fast to the anchor;
it shall never be removed.

2. Christ, the sure and steady anchor
while the tempest rages on,
when temptation claims the battle
and it seems the night has won;
deeper still then goes the anchor,
though I justly stand accused;
I will hold fast to the anchor;
it shall never be removed.

4. Christ, the sure and steady anchor
as we face the wave of death,
when these trials give way to glory,
as we draw our final breath;
we will cross that great horizon,
clouds behind and life secure,
and the calm will be the better
for the storms that we endure.

Christ, the shore of our salvation,
ever faithful, ever true;
we will hold fast to the anchor;
it shall never be removed.

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa © 2015 Getty Music Hymns & Songs

Benediction

Notices & Matters for Prayer

Welcome to Oxford Pres! Please stay for refreshments after the service!

Children We love having children in all our services as we train them to participate in public worship. Activity sheets are available on the welcome table; we also have a crèche area with a livestream downstairs (below the gallery) for little ones who are struggling. As a church it's our joy to practise both patience when children make a noise, and consideration of those who find noise distracting.

Student Study Café Monday 9:30-4pm, here at the North Gate Hall. See Gabby for further details!

Rooted, our student group, meets on Tuesdays from 7pm for pizza and Bible study.

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

ReRooted Student Getaway 17-19 March (Week 9). See Gabby, Alberto or Neil for more details!

NGH Building Works Please note that for 4 weeks before Easter, building renovations will be taking place in the North Gate Hall. This means that from Sunday 23rd March to 13th April our services will be in St. Luke's Chapel and the Quaker Friends Meeting house. Please look out for more details in a forthcoming email.

Children's Holiday Bible Club 2025 will take place on 14-15th August. Further details to follow!

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.

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for online
giving:



Welcome & Notices

Call to Worship

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Psalm 100:1-3

Introductory Prayer

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to His feet your tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who like you His praise should sing?
Praise Him! praise Him!
praise Him! praise Him!
praise the everlasting King.

3. Father-like He tends and spares us,
well our feeble frame He knows;
in His hands He gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Praise Him! praise Him!
praise Him! praise Him!
widely as His mercy flows.

2. Praise Him for His grace and favour
to our fathers in distress;
praise Him, still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
Praise Him! praise Him!
praise Him! praise Him!
glorious in His faithfulness.

4. Angels, help us to adore Him;
You behold Him face to face;
sun and moon bow down before Him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Praise Him! praise Him!
praise Him! praise Him!
praise with us the God of grace.

Psalm 103 | Henry Francis Lyte, 1793-1847

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

Then I saw 'a new heaven and a new earth,' for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Look! God's dwelling-place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death" or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.' Revelation 21:1-4

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum;
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more.
Stronger than darkness, new every morn;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.*

2. What patience would wait as we constantly roam?
What Father so tender is calling us home?
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

3. What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
his blood was the payment, his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving & Intercession

Confession of Faith

We believe that Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

from Colossians 1:15-20

By faith we see the hand of God

in the light of creation's grand design;
in the lives of those who prove his faithfulness,
who walk by faith and not by sight.

2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth
with the power of his promise in their hearts:
of a holy city built by God's own hand—
a place where peace and justice reign.

*We will stand as children of the promise,
we will fix our eyes on him: our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

3. By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the power to break the chains of sin and death
and rise triumphant from the grave.

4. By faith, the church was called to go
in the power of the spirit to the lost:
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in every corner of the earth.

We will stand as children of the promise....

5. By faith, this mountain shall be moved
and the power of the gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon his name.

We will stand as children of the promise....

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Prayer for Illumination

Bible Reading: Ps 46.1-11

Sermon: Succour for the Besieged