

Sunday 25th April 2021

Priory Methodist Church, Bedford

10.30am

Hybrid Morning Worship led by Richard Ledger

Welcome

Short piece of introductory music, played by Lynne Gound

Call to Worship

Opening Prayers

Singing the Faith 295

Alleluia, alleluia

*Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord;
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to His name.*

1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
He is the King of creation:
Chorus

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth,
Jesus has died and has risen:
Chorus

3 We have been crucified with Christ;
Now we shall live for ever:
Chorus

4 God has proclaimed the just reward:
new life for all, alleluia!
Choru

5 Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to our Saviour:
Chorus

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Bible Reading

Psalm 23

Read by Alan Davis

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

New Revised Standard Version

Gospel Reading**John 10: 11 – 18***Read By Pauline Williams*

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

New International Version

Sermon**Singing the Faith 297****Christ is alive**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die. | 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time. |
| 3 In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died. | 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all. |
| 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise. | |

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Prayers of intercession**The Lord's Prayer**

Singing the Faith 303 I know that my redeemer lives

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
What joy the blest assurance gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my everlasting head! | 2 He lives, to bless me with his love;
he lives, to plead for me above;
he lives, my hungry soul to feed;
he lives, to help in time of need. |
| 3 He lives, and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death:
he lives, my mansion to prepare;
he lives, to lead me safely there. | 4 He lives, all glory to his name;
he lives, my Saviour still the same;
what joy the blest assurance gives!
I know that my Redeemer lives. |

Samuel Medley (1738-1799)

Sharing the Grace

A short piece of concluding music