

## **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Voluntary:

Chorale Prelude on "Diess sind die heil'gen zehn Gebot", BWV 679 J S Bach

Introit: Oculi omnium

Charles Wood

### **Call to Worship**

How long, Lord, will You hide Yourself from sight? Remember how fleeting  
is our life! *Psalm 89:46-47*

**Hymn:** 641 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God

*Seek Ye First*

- 1        Seek ye first the kingdom of God  
          and His righteousness ;  
          and all these things shall be added unto you ;  
          allelu, alleluia.  
          *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia !*
  
- 2        Ask, and it shall be given unto you,  
          seek, and ye shall find ;  
          knock, and the door shall be opened unto you ;  
          allelu, alleluia.  
          *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia !*
  
- 3        You shall not live by bread alone,  
          but by every word  
          that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord ;  
          allelu, alleluia.  
          *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia !*

***We bring to God our prayers and  
The Lord's Prayer***

**Our Father,  
Which art in heaven  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the Kingdom,  
The power and the glory, forever.  
Amen**

***We hear the Word of God***

New Testament:           **Matthew 25:14-30**  
  **(Read by: Jon Cossar)**

<sup>14</sup> “For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; <sup>15</sup> to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup> He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup> So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup> Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup> And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ <sup>23</sup> His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup> He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not

sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; <sup>25</sup> so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup> But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup> And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.’

Amen

### **Children’s Time**

***We respond to God’s Word with our Offering***  
*(Children invited to help with the Offering)*

Offertory: Interlude (in the form of a canon)

William Harris

### **Prayer**

*Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club*

**Hymn:** 425 The Saviour died, but rose again

*St Andrew*

- 1        The Saviour died, but rose again  
          triumphant from the grave ;  
          and pleads our cause at God’s right hand,  
          omnipotent to save.
  
- 2        Who then can e’er divide us more  
          from Jesus and His love,  
          or break the sacred chain that binds  
          the earth to heaven above ?

- 3 Let troubles rise, and terrors frown,  
and days of darkness fall ;  
through Him all dangers we'll defy,  
and more than conquer all.
- 4 Nor death nor life, nor earth nor hell,  
nor time's destroying sway,  
can e'er efface us from His heart,  
or make His love decay.
- 5 Each future period that will bless,  
as it has blessed the past :  
He loved us from the first of time,  
He loves us to the last.

***We bring to God our Prayers of Confession***

***We hear the Word of God***

Old Testament: **Psalm 90:1-8**

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place  
in all generations.

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting thou art God.

<sup>3</sup> Thou turnest man back to the dust,  
and sayest, "Turn back, O children of men!"

<sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in thy sight  
are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup> Thou dost sweep men away; they are like a dream,  
like grass which is renewed in the morning:

<sup>6</sup> in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.

7 For we are consumed by thy anger;  
by thy wrath we are overwhelmed.

8 Thou hast set our iniquities before thee,  
our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

Amen

Anthem: The Lord is my shepherd

Schubert

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to rest in green pastures: He leadeth me beside still waters. He giveth peace unto my soul: He leadeth me in paths of goodness for His Name's sake. Yea, though I walk thro' Death's dark vale of shadows, no evil will I fear: for Thou art still with me; Thy rod and staff they comfort me. Thou preparest here a table before me, in presence of mine enemies: my head with oil Thou annointest; my cup runneth over, yea, surely peace and mercy all my life shall follow me: and I will dwell with God for evermore.

(Ps. XXIII)

### **Intimations**

**Hymn:** 264 Judge Eternal, throned in splendour

*Rhuddlan*

- 1 Judge Eternal, throned in splendour,  
Lord of lords and King of kings,  
with Your living fire of judgement  
purge this land of bitter things ;  
solace all its wide dominion  
with the healing of Your wings.
- 2 Still the weary folk are pining  
for the hour that brings release ;  
and the city's crowded clangour  
cries aloud for sin to cease ;  
and the homesteads and the woodlands  
plead in silence for their peace.

- 3 Crown, O God, Your own endeavour ;  
cleave our darkness with Your sword ;  
feed the faithless and the hungry  
with the richness of Your word ;  
cleanse the body of this nation  
through the glory of the Lord.

Sermon

**Using talents**

***We bring to God our prayers  
of Thanksgiving and Intercession***

**Hymn:** 472 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus

*Stuttgart*

- 1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set Thy people free ;  
from our fears and sins release us ;  
let us find our rest in Thee.
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth Thou art,  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.
- 3 Born Thy people to deliver,  
born a child, and yet a King,  
born to reign in us for ever,  
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
- 4 By Thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone ;  
by Thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to Thy glorious throne.

**Benediction and Threefold Amen**

Voluntary: Prelude & Fugue in G, BWV 541

J S Bach