

## **WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

Voluntary: Preludio "Sine Nomine"

Herbert Howells

Introit: Thou wilt keep him

Reginald Redman

### **Call to Worship**

'Look forward to the coming of the day of God, and work to hasten it on'

*II Peter 3.12*

**Hymn:** 550 As the deer pants for the water

*As The Deer Pants*

As the deer pants for the water  
so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.

*You alone are my strength, my shield  
to you alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver  
only you can satisfy  
You alone are the real joy giver  
and the apple of my eye

*You alone are my strength, my shield  
to you alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.*

You're my friend and  
you are my brother  
even though you are a King  
I love you more than any other  
so much more than anything.

*You alone are my strength, my shield  
to you alone may my spirit yield  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.*

***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***

Old Testament:           **I Samuel 1:4-20**  
*(Read By: Olivia Thrower)*

<sup>4</sup> On the day when Elka'nah sacrificed, he would give portions to Penin'nah his wife and to all her sons and daughters; <sup>5</sup> and, although he loved Hannah, he would give Hannah only one portion, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>6</sup> And her rival used to provoke her sorely, to irritate her, because the LORD had closed her womb. <sup>7</sup> So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the LORD, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. <sup>8</sup> And Elka'nah, her husband, said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? And why do you not eat? And why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?"

<sup>9</sup> After they had eaten and drunk in Shiloh, Hannah rose. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the LORD. <sup>10</sup> She was deeply distressed and prayed to the LORD, and wept bitterly. <sup>11</sup> And she vowed a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thy maidservant, and remember me, and not forget thy maidservant, but wilt give to thy maidservant a son, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head."

<sup>12</sup> As she continued praying before the LORD, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard; therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman. <sup>14</sup> And Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunken? Put away your wine from you." <sup>15</sup> But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman sorely troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my

soul before the LORD. <sup>16</sup> Do not regard your maidservant as a base woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation.” <sup>17</sup> Then Eli answered, “Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have made to him.” <sup>18</sup> And she said, “Let your maidservant find favour in your eyes.” Then the woman went her way and ate, and her countenance was no longer sad.

<sup>19</sup> They rose early in the morning and worshipped before the LORD; then they went back to their house at Ramah. And Elka’nah knew Hannah his wife, and the LORD remembered her; <sup>20</sup> and in due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, “I have asked him of the Lord”.

Amen

### **Children’s Time**

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

Offertory: Prelude on Old XXVth Psalm

Charles Wood

### **Prayer**

*Children leave for Crèche and Sunday Club*

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

*St Andrew*

The Saviour died, but rose again  
triumphant from the grave;  
and pleads our cause at God’s right hand,  
omnipotent to save.

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?

Let troubles rise, and terrors frown,  
and days of darkness fall;  
through him all dangers we’ll defy,  
and more than conquer all.

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.

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***

New Testament:           **Mark 13:1-8**

And as he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what wonderful stones and what wonderful buildings!" <sup>2</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Do you see these great buildings? There will not be left here one stone upon another, that will not be thrown down."

<sup>3</sup> And as he sat on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter and James and John and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup> "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign when these things are all to be accomplished?" <sup>5</sup> And Jesus began to say to them, "Take heed that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup> Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup> And when you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is not yet. <sup>8</sup> For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places, there will be famines; this is but the beginning of the birth-pangs.

Amen

Anthem: I lift my eyes to the quiet hills...

Norman Warren

I lift my eyes to the quiet hills  
In the press of a busy day;  
As green hills stand in a dusty land  
So God is my strength and stay.

I lift my eyes to the quiet hills  
To a calm that is mine to share;  
Secure and still in the Father's will  
And kept by the Father's care.

I lift my eyes to the quiet hills  
With a prayer as I turn to sleep;  
By day, by night, through the dark and light  
My Shepherd will guard his sheep.

I lift my eyes to the quiet hills  
And my heart to the Father's throne;  
In all my ways to the end of days  
The Lord will preserve his own.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (from Psalm 121)

### Intimations

**Hymn:** 543 Longing for light

*Christ Be Our Light*

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in our hearts.*  
*Shine through the darkness.*  
*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.

*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in our hearts.*  
*Shine through the darkness.*  
*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in our hearts.*  
*Shine through the darkness.*  
*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your church gathered today.*

Sermon

## **Believing**

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

**Hymn:** 462 The King of Love my Shepherd is

*Dominus Regit Me*

The King of Love my Shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his,  
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and oh, what wonder and delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever!

### **Benediction and Threefold Amen**

Voluntary: Fugue in C, BWV 547(ii)

J S Bach