

St Matthew's 10.45am Sunday 27th October 2024

Service Leader: Alyson Green

Preacher: Rev Jim Trood

Theme: Revelation: Thyatira and Sardis: Don't rest on your laurels

Welcome to St Matthew's. Please join us for tea or coffee after this service. Children leave for Children's Church after the All Together song, returning at midday.

Please place any financial gifts in the bags which will be passed around during our offertory song. If you prefer you may use the contactless machine at the back of church or donate via the church website.

Welcome & Notices

Opening Words

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognize his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.
Amen.



Song



Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me;
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.

Saying Sorry (Confession)

In a dark and disfigured world
we have not held out the light of life:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.



In a hungry and despairing world
we have failed to share our bread:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

In a cold and loveless world
we have kept the love of God to ourselves:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Forgiveness (Absolution)

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



All Together Talk (Rev Jim Trood)

All Together Song

This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine (X 3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.



Light that shines is the light of love
Hides the darkness from above
Shines on me and it shines on you
Shows what the power of love can do
Shine my light both bright and clear
Shine my light both far and near
In ev'ry dark corner that I find
Gonna let my little light shine.

This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine (X 3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Monday Gave me the gift of love
Tuesday Peace came from above
Wednesday Told me to have more faith
Thursday Gave me the gift of grace
Friday Told me to watch and pray
Sat'day Told me what to say
Sunday Gave me the power divine
To let my little light shine.

Children leave for their groups.

Song

Jesus, be the centre

Be my source, Be my light,
Jesus.



Jesus, be the centre
Be my hope, be my song,
Jesus.

Be the fire in my heart,
Be the wind in these sails,
Be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision
Be my path, be my guide,
Jesus.

Intercessions (Barbara Parker)

These responses may be used
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.



At the end
Merciful Father,
accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Collect

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.



1st Bible Reading – Revelation 2: 18-28 (Patti Lane)

¹⁸ “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:



These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. ¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. ²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. ²³ I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

²⁴ Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets, 'I will not impose any other burden on you, ²⁵ except to hold on to what you have until I come.'

²⁶ To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— ²⁷ that one ‘will rule them with an iron sceptre and will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father. ²⁸ I will also give that one the morning star.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

2nd Bible Reading – Revelation 3: 1-6 (Sarah Samuel Augustine)



3 “To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ² Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. ³ Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

⁴ Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. ⁵ The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. ⁶ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

[at the end]

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon (Rev Jim Trood)



The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers:
they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Response/Sung Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God the Father,
a mighty God who never sleeps,
He delights to hear our laughter,
He consoles the child that weeps,
And He loves us like a mother,
And He sent us Christ our brother,
Above Him there is no other!

We believe in God our Father,
And in Christ who sets us free.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
Blessed Trinity.

We believe in Christ our Saviour,
God with us to show us love,
Died a shameful death to save us,
Now He sits enthroned above.
You can come to Him whenever,
His forgiveness failing never,
Our Great Shepherd, King forever!

We believe the Holy Spirit
Is our comforter and guide.
Though we walk in fearful darkness,
Still we have this light inside,
Joy, Love, Gentleness and Kindness,
Self-Control, Peace, Patience, Goodness,
Adding Faithfulness to all this!



Bridge

Our Father God who made us,
His Son who came down to save us,
The Spirit who sustains us,
The Holy Three in One.

Offertory Song

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy grace receive!
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation:
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place;
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.



Offertory Prayer



Concluding Prayer

God of power,
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,
may the gifts of your Spirit equip us to serve and
worship you
now and always.



Blessing

Now may the blessing of God the Father,
who made from one every nation that occupies the earth;
of God the Son who bought us for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation;
and of God the Spirit who brings us together in unity,
be with us and remain with us always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.