

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY
Sunday 8th September 2019

HYMN:

TIS 102

**Praise to the living God,
all praise be to his name,
who was, and is, and is to be,
and still the same:
the one eternal God
before what now appears,
the First, the Last, beyond all thought
his timeless years!**

**Formless, all lovely forms
declare his loveliness;
holy, no holiness of earth
can his express.
Behold the Lord of all:
creation speaks his praise,
and everywhere, above, below,
his will obeys.**

**God's Spirit freely flows,
high surging where it will:
in prophet's word he spoke of old,
is speaking still.
Established is God's law
and changeless it shall stand,
deep written on the human heart,
on sea, on land.**

**God has eternal life
implanted in the soul;
his love shall be our strength and stay
while ages roll.
Praise to the living God,
all praise be to his name,
who was, and is, and is to be,
and still the same!**

*From the Jewish Yigdal 13th cent. tr. Max Landsberg 1845-1928,
Newton Mann 1836-1926 & William Channing Gannett 1840-1923 alt*

Jeremiah 18: 1-11 (OT p.739)

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶ Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷ At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸ but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹ And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰ but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹ Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

HYMN: TIS 87 “You are before me Lord” (*Psalm 139:5-10,23-24*)

**You are before me, Lord, you are behind,
and over me you have spread out your hand;
such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too high to grasp, too great to understand.**

**Then where, Lord, from your presence shall I go,
and from your Spirit where, Lord, shall I fly?**

**If I ascend to heaven you are there,
and still are with me if in hell I lie;**

**and if I take my flight into the dawn,
or if I dwell on ocean's farthest shore
your mighty hand will rest upon me still,
and your right hand will guard me evermore.**

**Search me, O God, search me and know my ways;
try me, O God, my mind and spirit try;
keep me from any path that gives you pain
and lead me in the everlasting way.**

Ian Robertson Pitt-Watson 1923-95

Luke 14:25-33 (NT p. 73)

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple, ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

HYMN: TIS 685 “Lord I come to you”

**Lord, I come to you:
let my heart be changed, renewed,
flowing from the grace
that I found in you.**

**And, Lord, I’ve come to know
the weaknesses I see in me
will be stripped away
by the power of your love.**

*Hold me close,
let your love surround me;
bring me new,
draw me to your side:
and as I wait
I’ll rise up like the eagle,
and I will soar with you:
your Spirit leads me on
in the power of your love.*

**Lord, unveil my eyes,
let me see you face to face,
the knowledge of your love
as you live in me.**

**Lord, renew my mind
as your will unfolds in my life,
in living every day
in the power of your love.**

*Hold me close,
let your love surround me;
bring me new,
draw me to your side:
and as I wait
I'll rise up like the eagle,
and I will soar with you:
your Spirit leads me on
in the power of your love.*

Geoffrey William Bullock 1955–

MESSAGE:

OFFERING

Offering Prayer – HYMN: TIS 774

**For the life that you have given,
for the love of Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labour,
with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises;
heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you,
living what we pray and sing.**

Carl Pickens Daw 1944–

HYMN: TIS 665

**Jesus Christ is waiting,
waiting in the streets;
no-one is his neighbour,
all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger,
fit to wait on you.**

**Jesus Christ is raging,
raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals
and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I am angry too.
In the Kingdom causes
let me rage with you.**

**Jesus Christ is healing,
healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer,
touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I have pity too.
Let my care be active,
healing just like you.**

**Jesus Christ is dancing,
dancing in the streets,
where each sign of hatred
he, with love, defeats.
Listen, Lord Jesus,
I should triumph too.
Where good conquers evil
let me dance with you.**

**Jesus Christ is calling,
calling in the streets,
'Who will join my Journey?
I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus,
let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me;
I will follow you.**

HYMN: TIS 779

**May the feet of God walk with you,
and God's hand hold you tight,
May the eye of God rest on you,
and God's ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you,
and God's breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you,
and God's love bring you home.**

Aubrey Podlich 1946-

HYMN: TIS 778

**Shalom to you now,
Shalom my friends.
May God's full mercies
bless you my friends.
In all your living
and through your loving;
Christ be your shalom.
Christ be your shalom**

Elise Shoemaker Eslinger 1942-