

MUSIC

Welcome and notices

Call to worship: “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart. For great are the works of the Lord. His promise endures for ever. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom. All who practice it have a good understanding.” Psalm 111: verses 1 and 10

Please stand for the hymns if you can do so.

HYMN: “Living God, your word has called us.”

Sing Praise 177 - Tune Blauenwern

Living God, your word has called us, Summoned us to live by grace, Make us one in hope and vision, As we gather in this place. Take our searching, take our praising, Take the silence of our prayer, Offered up in joyful worship, Springing from the love we share. Living God, your love has called us In the name of Christ your Son, Forming us to be his body, By your Spirit making one. Working, laughing, learning, growing, Old and young and black and white, Gifts and skills together sharing, In your service all unite.	Living God, your hope has called us To the world that you have made, Teaching us to live for others, Humble, joyful, unafraid. Give us eyes to see your presence, Joy in laughter, hope in pain. In our loving, in our living, Give us strength that Christ may reign. Jan Berry
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Prayer: Adoration, Thanksgiving and Confession. We end with the Lord’s Prayer

Bible Reading:

Genesis 17: 1-7; 15-17

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, ‘I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you and will make you exceedingly numerous.’ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ‘As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, ‘As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.’ Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said to himself, ‘Can a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?’

Mark 8: 31-35

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he

rebuked Peter and said, ‘Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, ‘If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

Reflection: The Seesaw of Faith. Certainty and Doubt.

HYMN “Have faith in God my Heart.”

RS 499 - Tune Carlisle

<p>Have faith in God, my heart, trust and be unafraid; God will fulfil in every part each promise he has made.</p> <p>Have faith in God, my mind, although your light burns low; God’s mercy holds a wiser plan than you can fully know.</p>	<p>Have faith in God, my soul, his cross for ever stands; and neither life nor death can tear his children from his hands.</p> <p>Lord Jesus, make me whole; grant me no resting place until I rest, heart, mind, and soul, the captive of your grace.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Bryn A Rees</p>
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We remain standing to dedicate the Offering.

We end with the words of The Grace, said to each other.

Prayer: Intercession

Communion

HYMN – “Lead us Heavenly Father, lead us.”

RS 543 – Tune Mannheim

<p>Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us o'er the world's tempestuous sea; guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us, for we have no help but thee; yet possessing every blessing, if our God our Father be.</p> <p>Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us; all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us; thou didst feel its keenest woe; Lone and dreary, faint and weary, Through the desert thou didst go.</p>	<p>Spirit of our God, descending, fill our hearts with heavenly joy; love with every passion blending pleasure that can never cloy; thus provided, pardoned, guided, nothing can our peace destroy.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">James Edmeston</p>
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Blessing

Music