

21st November 2021

OTPC Pulpit Exchange

Revd Mark Barrett (Bath Road)

Welcome and notices

Introit by the choir: "Praise the God of all Creation" by Marty Haugen

Call to worship:

Hymn - SP 296 My life flows on

Robert Lowry and Doris Plenn

1. My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation:
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that sings a new creation

*No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth
how can I keep from singing?*

3. What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Saviour liveth!
What though the darkness round me close?
Songs in the night he giveth.

4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing.
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?

Tune: How can I keep from singing?

Prayer of adoration and confession, followed by collection and dedication.

Bible Reading: Matthew 22:23-40

Hymn - R&S 107 The Love of God

John Bell & Graham Maule

1. The love of God comes close
where stands an open door
to let the stranger in
to mingle rich and poor
the love of God is here to stay
embracing those who walk his way,
the love of God is here to stay.

3. The joy of God comes close
where faith encounters fears,
where heights and depths of life
are found through smiles and tears;
the joy of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk his way,
the joy of God is here to Stay.

4. The grace of God comes close
to those whose grace is spent,
when hearts are tired or sore
and hope is bruised or bent:
the grace of God is here to stay
embracing those who walk his way,
the grace of God is here to stay.

5. The Son of God comes close
where people praise his name,
where bread and wine are blest
and shared, as when he came;
the Son of God is here to stay,
embracing those who walk his way,
the Son of God is here to stay.

Tune: Rhosymedre

Sermon - Law or Love?

Anthem by the choir: "Wash me Thoroughly" by David Halls

Prayers of intercession

Hymn – SP 176 Let us build a house

Marty Haugen

1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions rock of faith and vault of grace.
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions

Since all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

3. Let us build a house where love is found in water wine and wheat.
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God through Jesus is revealed in time and space
as we share the feast that frees us....

4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach and live the word they've known
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face.
Let us bring an end to fear and danger ...

5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved
and treasurer taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter...
Since all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Tune: Two Oaks

Communion.

Hymn – SP 246 Jesus Christ is waiting

John Bell & Graham Maule

1. 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

2. 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's causes let me rage with you

4. 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.

5. 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.

Tune: Noel Nouvelet

Blessing

