

Nuneaton Christian Fellowship

May the LORD bless you and keep you.
May the LORD show you His kindness
and have mercy on you.
May the LORD watch over you
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 [*New Century Version*]

**All: We praise You God for meeting with us this evening.
Thank You for Your care and concern for us, especially
when it is unexpected. Help us to listen as You continue
to speak to us all as we go to our homes. May others be
encouraged and may You be glorified in our words and
actions this coming week. Amen.**

Refreshments are now being served in the Small Hall.
You're welcome to stay and enjoy them with us.

We are so glad you joined us today
and look forward to seeing you again.
Our next Traditional Evening Service is on 3rd March.

Please let us know
if we can pray for you or help you.

More details about what is happening here can be found in our twice
monthly Newsletter 'Onward' and on our website:

nuneatonchristianfellowship.org.uk

NCF Ministers:
John Stephenson, Rev. Paul Wood and Rev. Nik Howarth

17th February 2019 - 6.00pm

We warmly welcome you
to our Traditional Evening Service
which is being led by
John Stephenson
this evening.

Our Traditional Evening Services occur
on the first and third Sunday of each month
and last for around 50 minutes.

Welcome and Notices

Opening Prayers

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness;

All: We will come before Him with joyful songs.

Know that the LORD is God.

**All: It is He who made us, and we are His;
we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.**

Enter His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise;
give thanks to Him and praise His name.

**All: For the LORD is good
and His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues through all generations.**

(Psalm 100)

Hymn

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us,
Revive Thy church with life and power.

O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us;
And fit Thy church to meet this hour.

Sermon

Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of His word;
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His name!
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;
His holy name, the Lord, the mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by;
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
To children's children and forever more!

[Written in 1962]

Closing Prayers

**All: God, thank You for the dreams that we have in our
lives. As we take Your yoke upon us, help us to learn
more about Your ways and Your plans. We wholeheart-
edly want You to be glorified in our lives. Amen.**

(Matthew 11:29, 30)

Our Second Reading

Genesis 45:1-11 (New International Version)

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, "Have everyone leave my presence!" So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh's household heard about it.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still living?" But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come close to me." When they had done so, he said, "I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no ploughing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. ⁹ Now hurry back to my father and say to him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; don't delay. ¹⁰ You shall live in the region of Goshen and be near me—you, your children and grandchildren, your flocks and herds, and all you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there, because five years of famine are still to come. Otherwise you and your household and all who belong to you will become destitute.'

O Wind of God, come, bend us, break us,
Till humbly we confess our need.
Then in Thy tenderness remake us;
Revive, restore, for this we plead.

O Breath of love, come breathe within us,
Renewing thought and will and heart.
Come, love of Christ, afresh to win us;
Revive Thy church in every part.

O Heart of Christ, once broken for us,
'Tis there we find our strength and rest;
Our broken contrite hearts now solace,
And let Thy waiting Church be blessed.

Revive, us, Lord! Is zeal abating
While harvest fields are vast and white?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
Equip Thy church to spread the light.

[Written in 1920]

Prayer

All: Lord, we praise You for the spring flowers that we are beginning to see in our gardens and for the increasing length of daylight we are experiencing. Thank You God for the changing physical seasons and for Your love that holds us and nurtures us during each season in our lives. Amen.

Offertory Hymn

Fill Thou my life, O Lord, my God,
In every part with praise,
That my whole being may proclaim
Thy being and Thy ways.

Not for the lip of praise alone,
Nor e'en the praising heart,
I ask, but for a life made up
Of praise in every part:

Praise in the common things of life,
Its goings out and in;
Praise in each duty and each deed,
However small and mean.

Fill every part of me with praise;
Let all my being speak
Of Thee and of Thy love, O Lord,
Poor though I be and weak.

So shall Thou, gracious Lord, from me
Receive the glory due;
And so shall I begin on earth
The song for ever new.

So shall no part of day or night
From sacredness be free,
But all my life, in every step,
Be fellowship with Thee.

[Written in 1866]

Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of Thy peace,
The beauty of Thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire,
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm,
O still small voice of calm!

[Written in 1872]

Prayer

**Your Word, LORD, is eternal;
it stands firm in the heavens.
Your Word is a lamp to my feet,
a light on my path.
Your statutes are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.
Direct my footsteps according to Your Word;
let no sin rule over me.
I wait for Your salvation LORD
and I follow Your commands,
I obey Your statutes,
for I love them greatly.
I obey Your precepts and Your statutes,
for all my ways are known to You.
Amen.**

(Psalm 119:89,105, 111, 133, 166-168)

Hymn

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our foolish ways:
Reclothe us in our rightful mind;
In purer lives Thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise,
In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord
Let us, like them, without a word:
Rise up and follow Thee,
Rise up and follow Thee.

O sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with Thee
The silence of eternity
Interpreted by love,
Interpreted by love!

With that deep hush subduing all
Our words and works that drown
The tender whisper of Thy call,
As noiseless let Thy blessing fall,
As fell Thy manna down,
As fell Thy manna down.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;

Our First Reading

Genesis 37: 3-11 (New International Version)

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

⁵ Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more. ⁶ He said to them, “Listen to this dream I had: ⁷ We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.”

⁸ His brothers said to him, “Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?” And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

⁹ Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. “Listen,” he said, “I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.”

¹⁰ When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, “What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?” ¹¹ His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

Hymn

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

The waves of the sea have lifted their voice,
Sore troubled that we in Jesus rejoice;
The floods they are roaring, but Jesus is here;
While we are adoring, He always is near.

When devils engage, the billows arise,
And horribly rage, and threaten the skies:
Their fury shall never our steadfastness shock,
The weakest believer is built on a rock.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
Though hid from our sight, His presence we have;
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

“Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!”
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give Him His right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing with angels above
And thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

[Written in 1744]

In this time of silent prayer let us remember the Warwickshire Police Constabulary. Martin Jelley is our Chief Constable and Philip Seccombe is our Police and Crime Commissioner. Pray for all the staff that work to keep our County a safer place.

With less than six weeks until Brexit occurs, let's continue to pray for both sides of the table. May this impasse be settled soon. God, our eyes on are You!

The present Library building in Nuneaton was opened on 29th October 1962. A lot of different people work there and a great deal more regularly use the facilities. Pray that the staff will be encouraged as they interact with members of the public and that those who are to decide on how this part of Nuneaton is to be 'transformed' won't make their decisions in a hurry.

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy Will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Margaret M's Story