

Nuneaton Christian Fellowship

‘May the LORD bless you
and protect you.
May the LORD smile on you
and be gracious to you.
May the LORD show you His favour
and give you His peace.’

Numbers 6:24-26 [*New Living Translation*]

**All: We are in awe of what You have done for us God.
We commit ourselves to follow You. Help us to learn
more about what You have said and what You did. We
choose to copy Your example Jesus. Please be glorified in
our thoughts, words and actions this coming week. We
praise You! 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 17th 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

3rd March 2019 - 6.00pm

We warmly welcome you
to our Traditional Evening Service
which is being led by
Rev. Paul Wood
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

Praise the LORD

**All: Praise God in His sanctuary;
praise Him in His mighty heavens.**

Praise Him for His acts of power;

All: Praise Him for His surpassing greatness.

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

All: Praise the LORD.

(Psalm 150)

Hymn

God is working His purpose out

As year succeeds to year:

God is working His purpose out,

And the time is drawing near;

Nearer and nearer draws the time

The time that shall surely be,

When the earth shall be filled

With the glory of God

As the waters cover the sea.

From farthest East to farthest West,

Where'er man's foot hath trod,

By the mouth of many messengers

Goes forth the voice of God:

Sermon

Hymn

Blessèd assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,

Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

This is my story, this is my song,

Praising my Saviour all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song,

Praising my Saviour all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,

Visions of rapture burst on my sight;

Angels, descending, bring from above

Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,

I in my Saviour am happy and blessed,

Watching and waiting, looking above,

Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

[Written in 1873]

Closing Prayers

**All: Lord Jesus, we thank You for the extravagant love
that You have lavished upon us. We are so amazed that
we are Your children - forgiven, loved and cherished.
Thank You for giving us a hope and a purpose. Amen.**

(1 John 3:1-3)

Our Second Reading

Ephesians 3:7-21 (New International Version)

⁷ I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸ Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹ and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

¹⁰ His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹ according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence. ¹³ I ask you, therefore, not to be discouraged because of my sufferings for you, which are your glory.

¹⁴ For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶ I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

‘Give ear to Me, ye continents,
Ye isles, give ear to Me,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.’

Let us go forth in the strength of God,
With the banner of Christ unfurled,
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth
May shine throughout the world:
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin,
To set their captives free,
That the earth may be filled
With the glory of God,
As the waters cover the sea.

All that we do can have no worth,
Unless God blesses the deed;
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide,
Till God gives life to the seed;
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time,
The time that shall surely be,
When the earth shall be filled
With the glory of God
As the waters cover the sea.

[Written in 1894]

Prayer

All: Father God, we praise You for adopting us into Your family. We consider and repent of the things that we have recently done that haven't been honouring to You. Please cleanse us. May the people we meet regularly see Your glory in us. Amen.

Offertory Hymn

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,
Crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of your God,
Who from His altar call;
Extol Him in whose path ye trod,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed of the Fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng,
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.

[Written in 1779]

Prayer

**God, there is no one who can compare with You.
You sit enthroned above the circle of the earth
and we are like grasshoppers.
You stretch out the heavens like a canopy
and stretch them out like a tent to live in.**

**We thank You for bringing out the starry host
one by one,
even calling forth each one of them by name.**

**You hold the dust of the earth in a basket
and You weigh the mountains on the scales.**

**LORD, You are the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
You will not grow tired or weary
and Your understanding can be fathomed by no one.**

**You give strength to the weary
and increase the power of the weak.
You renew the strength of those that hope in You,
so that we can soar like eagles.**

**The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the Word of our God endures forever.**

**Sovereign LORD we want to see You come in power
in Nuneaton and further afield.
May Your Kingdom and Your Will be done
right here as in heaven.
Amen.**

(Isaiah 40)

Hymn

When I survey the wond'rous Cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet?
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
Then am I dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of Nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

To Christ, Who won for sinners grace
By bitter grief and anguish sore,
Be praise from all the ransomed race
Forever and forevermore.

[Written in 1707]

Our First Reading

Philippians 1:1-11 (New International Version)

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

² Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Hymn

As the deer pants for the water,
So my soul longs after You.
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
To You alone may my spirit yield;
You alone are my hearts desire
And I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy,
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye.

You're my friend and You're my brother,
Even though you are a King,
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything.

[Written in 1983]

In this time of silent prayer let us remember those that foster children in Warwickshire - whether on a long term or short term basis. Children need to be fostered for all kinds of reasons and they need stable and loving people to look after them. Pray that more Christian families will consider become fosterers, so that Jesus' love can be shared in a gentle way to those that are young and vulnerable.

With the United Kingdom leaving the European Union this month there is still much to talk to God about. Pray especially for the politicians and civil servants that are directly involved.

Nuneaton still has a wide variety of small shops in the town centre. Pray for those that own, manage and work in them. May the local economic structure help them to stay viable as they serve our community.

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.**

Communion