

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee;
the Lord show His face to thee,
and have mercy upon thee;
the Lord turn His face to thee,
and give peace to thee.

Numbers 6:24-26 [Wycliffe Bible]

All: Your mercy and love has changed our lives. We thank You God for the strength You give us to be a shining light to our friends and family. We turn our eyes to You and submit to Your divine Lordship again. We seek to put You first in our thoughts, words and actions. Please be glorified in our lives 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 19th May.

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

Nuneaton Christian Fellowship

5th May 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 God in His sanctuary;

All: 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

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Sermon

Hymn

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him
Who brings good news, good news
Proclaiming peace, announcing news of happiness
Our God reigns, our God reigns

*Our God reigns, our God reigns
Our God reigns, our God reigns*

You watchmen lift your voices joyfully as one
Shout for your King, your King
See eye to eye the Lord restoring Zion
Your God reigns, your God reigns!

Waste places of Jerusalem break forth with joy
We are redeemed, redeemed
The Lord has saved and comforted His people
Your God reigns, your God reigns!

Ends of the earth, see the salvation of your God
Jesus is Lord, is Lord
Before the nations He has bared His holy arm
Your God reigns, your God reigns!

[Written 1974-1978]

Closing Prayers

**All: Thank You Heavenly Father for Your love towards us.
Thank You that You pursue us. Through You we know we
can do the things that You call us to do. Give us ears to
hear, so that we can hear You speak to us. Help us move
in Your time and at Your pace. Amen.**

Our Second Reading

Psalm 40:1-8 (New International Version)

I waited patiently for the LORD;
he turned to me and heard my cry.
² He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.
³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the LORD
and put their trust in him.
⁴ Blessed is the one
who trusts in the LORD,
who does not look to the proud,
to those who turn aside to false gods.
⁵ Many, LORD my God,
are the wonders you have done,
the things you planned for us.
None can compare with you;
were I to speak and tell of your deeds,
they would be too many to declare.
Sacrifice and offering you did not desire—
but my ears you have opened—
burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.
⁷ Then I said, “Here I am, I have come—
it is written about me in the scroll.
⁸ I desire to do your will, my God;
your law is within my heart.”

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Blessed Saviour, Thou hast promised
Thou wilt all our burdens bear;
May we ever, Lord, be bringing
All to Thee in earnest prayer.
Soon in glory bright, unclouded,
There will be no need for prayer—
Rapture, praise, and endless worship
Will be our sweet portion there.

[Written in 1855]

Prayer

All: Jesus - our Saviour, our Lord and our faithful Friend, thank You that as we pray to You, so You hear us. Thank You for the joy we can experience as we spend time with You. We are sorry for the recent things we have done and shouldn't have, and for the things we didn't do and should have. We know that You are loving towards us, but that You are also holy. Continue to direct us in the way that we follow You. Amen.

Offertory Hymn

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide;
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see—
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies;
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

[Written in 1847]

Our First Reading

Joshua 1:1-18 (New International Version)

1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ²“Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river,

Prayer

**I will exalt You, my God the King;
I will praise Your name for ever and ever.
Every day I will praise You
and extol Your name for ever and ever.**

**Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
His greatness no one can fathom.
One generation commends Your works to another;
they tell of Your mighty acts.
They speak of the glorious splendour of Your majesty—
and I will meditate on Your wonderful works.
They tell of the power of Your awesome works—
and I will proclaim Your great deeds.
They celebrate Your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of Your righteousness.**

**The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.
The LORD is good to all;
He has compassion on all He has made.
All Your works praise You, LORD;
Your faithful people extol You.
They tell of the glory of Your kingdom
and speak of Your might,
so that all people may know of Your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of Your kingdom.**

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures through all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy in all He promises
and faithful in all He does. Amen.**

(Psalm 145:1-13)

Hymn

He who would valiant be
'gainst all disaster,
let him in constancy
follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
shall make him once relent
his first avowed intent
to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
with dismal stories
do but themselves confound
his strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might;
though he with giants fight,
he will make good his right
to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend
us with thy Spirit,
We know we at the end,
shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away!
I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labour night and day
to be a pilgrim.

[Written in 1684]

the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

⁷“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

¹⁰So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: ¹¹“Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get your provisions ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own.’”

¹²But to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, ¹³“Remember the command that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you after he said, ‘The LORD your God will give you rest by giving you this land.’ ¹⁴Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, ready for battle, must cross over ahead of your fellow Israelites. You are to help them ¹⁵until the LORD gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land the LORD your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise.”

¹⁶Then they answered Joshua, “Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. ¹⁷Just as we fully obeyed Moses, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you as he was with Moses. ¹⁸Whoever rebels against your word and does not obey it, whatever you may command them, will be put to death. Only be strong and courageous!”

Hymn

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
Yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

There let the way appear, steps unto Heav'n;
All that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv'n;
Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

Then, with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I'll fly,
Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,
There in my Saviour's love, perfectly blest;
Age after age to be nearer, my God, to Thee.
Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

[Written in 1841]

In this time of silent prayer let us pray for the staff of Asda, Sainsbury's, Aldi and Lidl. Most of the population of this Borough will use one or more of these supermarkets regularly. May there be harmony between the staff and between the public and the employees. Could you be a blessing to someone there this coming week?

Many young people will be revising and taking A levels and GCSEs over the coming few weeks. It can be a time of satisfaction for some, but also of anxiety and feeling unprepared for others. Some families might be under a lot of strain. If you know any students personally, mention them by name to God.

Who is your oldest living relative? Your youngest known relative? Pray that God's love will flow through them this week.

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