

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 [English Standard Version]

All: Thank You Jesus for Your mammoth sacrifice for us on the cross. You have set us free to live for You. You have given us a new hope and have turned our mourning into dancing. Thank You God for the security we find in You. Our vocabulary doesn't stretch enough to fully express our thanks! Please accept our whole lives as worship to 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 16th June.

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

2nd June 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

We praise You God, for Your everlasting love.

All: We give You thanks.

We praise You God, for Your beautiful creation.

All: We give You thanks.

We praise You God, for the strength You give us.

All: We give You thanks.

Hymn

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awakening cries:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Alike at work and prayer
I find my Lord is there:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Does sadness fill my mind?
My strength in Him I find:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
When earthly hopes grow dim
My comfort is in him:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”

Hymn

All I once held dear, built my life upon
All this world reveres, and wars to own
All I once thought gain I have counted loss
Spent and worthless now, compared to this

*Knowing you, Jesus
Knowing you, there is no greater thing
You're my all, you're the best
You're my joy, my righteousness
And I love you, Lord*

Now my heart's desire is to know you more
To be found in you and known as yours
To possess by faith what I could not earn
All-surpassing gift of righteousness

Oh, to know the power of your risen life
And to know You in Your sufferings
To become like you in your death, my Lord
So with you to live and never die

[Written in 1993]

Closing Prayers

All: This week, as we find ourselves in all kinds of places and circumstances, we will look to You. As we set aside regular time to focus on You, we will hear from You. As we see people that don't yet know You, in words and action we will speak for You. Amen.

Our Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:19-27 (New International Version)

¹⁹ Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³ I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last for ever. ²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. ²⁷ No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

Sermon

To God, the Word on high
The hosts of angels cry:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"
Let mortals, too, upraise
Their voice in hymns of praise:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"

Let earth's wide circle round
In joyful notes resound:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"
Let air, and sea, and sky
From depth to height, reply:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"

Be this, while life is mine,
My canticle divine:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"

[Written in 1828, translated in 1854]

Prayer

All: Father, we thank You for Your presence with us. Wherever we are, whoever we're with, whatever situation we find ourselves in, You are with us. You graciously lead and guide us with enduring passion, enlightening truth and enabling mercy. We praise You. Amen.

Offertory Hymn

Stand up, stand up for Jesus
Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high His royal banner,
It must not suffer loss:
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army He shall lead,
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The trumpet call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict
In this His glorious day:
Ye that are men now serve Him
Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger,
And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own:
Put on the gospel armour,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls, or danger,
Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next the victor's song:
To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of glory
Shall reign eternally.

[Written in 1858]

Prayer

**Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart
None other is aught but the King of the seven heavens.
Be thou my meditation by day and night.
May it be thou that I behold even in my sleep.
Be thou my speech, be thou my understanding.
Be thou with me, be I with thee
Be thou my father, be I thy son.
Mayst thou be mine, may I be thine.
Be thou my battle-shield, be thou my sword.
Be thou my dignity, be thou my delight.
Be thou my shelter, be thou my stronghold.
Mayst thou raise me up to the company of the angels.
Be thou every good to my body and soul.
Be thou my kingdom in heaven and on earth.
Be thou solely chief love of my heart.
Let there be none other, O high King of Heaven.
Till I am able to pass into thy hands,**

**My treasure, my beloved through the greatness of thy love
Be thou alone my noble and wondrous estate.
I seek not men nor lifeless wealth.
Be thou the constant guardian of every possession
and every life.
For our corrupt desires are dead at the mere sight of thee.
Thy love in my soul and in my heart --
Grant this to me, O King of the seven heavens.
O King of the seven heavens grant me this --
Thy love to be in my heart and in my soul.
With the King of all, with him after victory won by piety,
May I be in the kingdom of heaven O brightness of the son.
Beloved Father, hear, hear my lamentations.
Timely is the cry of woe of this miserable wretch.
O heart of my heart, whatever befall me,
O ruler of all, be thou my vision. Amen** [Translated in 1905]

Hymn

Make me a channel of Your peace,
Where there is hatred let me bring Your love,
Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord,
And where there's doubt, true faith in You.

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek,
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of Your peace,
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
Where there is darkness, only light,
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek,
So much to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving to all men that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

[Written in 1967]

Our First Reading

Joshua 6:1-12 (New International Version)

Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

² Then the LORD said to Joshua, “See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.

³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams’ horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets.

⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.”

⁶ So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, “Take up the ark of the covenant of the LORD and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it.” ⁷ And he ordered the army, “Advance! March around the city, with an armed guard going ahead of the ark of the LORD.”

⁸ When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the LORD went forward, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the LORD’s covenant followed them. ⁹ The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding. ¹⁰ But Joshua had commanded the army, “Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!” ¹¹ So he had the ark of the LORD carried around the city, circling it once. Then the army returned to camp and spent the night there.

¹² Joshua got up early the next morning and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

Hymn

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfil Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

[Written in 1776]

In this time of silent prayer let us pray for those who have a long commute to work each day. Jams, roadworks and bad drivers don't create happy car experiences. Train and bus delays can also make parts of the day miserable for some.

Prince Philip will be 98 on 10th June. He has given a great deal to this nation. Especially give thanks to God for his support of the Queen, his setting up of the DofE Award Scheme and his example to the younger members of his family.

The process for choosing our new Prime Minister has unofficially already begun. Pray that the right person will be chosen. Also remember our present four living former Primer Ministers (Messrs Major, Blair, Brown and Cameron). May they show justice, love mercy and walk humbly before God.

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