

The Eternal One bless and keep you.  
May He make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Eternal lift up His countenance  
*to look* upon you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26 [The Voice]

**All: Thank You Heavenly Father for lavishing Your pure love on us. We are so grateful that You have adopted us and made us Your own. May the way we talk, work and act be a blessing to others. May our lives reflect Your glory. May our homes reflect Your love. May our relationships with others reflect Your humility. Be magnified in our lives. Amen.**

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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 4th August.

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](http://nuneatonchristianfellowship.org.uk)

NCF Ministers:

John Stephenson, Rev. Paul Wood and Rev. Nik Howarth

# Nuneaton Christian Fellowship

21st July 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

Holy God, we come to You with humble hearts.

**All: We focus our eyes on You, God.**

Holy God, we come to You with expectant hearts.

**All: We focus our eyes on You, God.**

Holy God, we come to You with thankful hearts.

**All: We focus our eyes on You, God.**

### Hymn

To God be the glory, great things He hath done,  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh, come to the Father,  
Through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory,  
Great things He hath done.*

## 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: Lord Jesus, Holy One, we ask that You would be glorified in our lives. Help us through our spoken words, written words and positive actions bring adoration to You. May those who know us the best see Someone at work in our lives. Amen.**

## Our Second Reading

Psalm 51:1-12 (New International Version)

For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

- <sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your unfailing love;  
according to your great compassion  
blot out my transgressions.
- <sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
- <sup>3</sup> For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.
- <sup>4</sup> Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.
- <sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth,  
sinful from the time my mother conceived me.
- <sup>6</sup> Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb;  
you taught me wisdom in that secret place.
- <sup>7</sup> Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;  
wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
- <sup>8</sup> Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have crushed rejoice.
- <sup>9</sup> Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.
- <sup>10</sup> Create in me a pure heart, O God,  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
- <sup>11</sup> Do not cast me from your presence  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.
- <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us,  
Great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

[Written in 1875 ]

## Prayer

**All: We praise You Lord for the great things You have done in our lives. We marvel that You take people like us and make us sparkle inside and out. Thank You for coming to earth as a physical person, to live and die and then to come back to life.**

**Your life is a great example to us today, but Your power at work in us continues to challenge and transform us. We open our hearts to You again, so that Your presence and influence in us would grow and our own ideas and hopes would be diminished. We offer our lives to You as a living sacrifice. Amen.**

### Offertory Hymn

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin,  
My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my words to them.  
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will send the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

[Written in 1981]

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,  
When, at His bidding, every storm is stilled,  
Or who can say how great the jubilation  
When every heart with love and joy is filled.  
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,  
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,  
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer,  
“At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!”

[Written in c.1920]

### Prayer

Let us say together:

**May the God who caused the storm to be stilled,  
The dead to be brought back to life,  
The spiritually hungry to be fed  
And the infirm to be healed,  
Be seen frequently in our lives.**

**May the God of hope  
Help us to bring laughter and contentment to others,  
Optimism to those in distress,  
A loving arm to the lonely  
And encouragement to those who feel unloved and alone.**

**Amen.**

## Hymn

I cannot tell why He, whom angels worship,  
Should set His love upon the sons of men,  
Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,  
To bring them back, they know not how or when.  
But this I know, that He was born of Mary  
When Bethl'hem's manger was His only home,  
And that He lived at Nazareth and laboured,  
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered,  
As with His peace He graced this place of tears,  
Or how His heart upon the cross was broken,  
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.  
But this I know, He heals the broken-hearted  
And stays our sin and calms our lurking fear  
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden;  
For still the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations,  
How He will claim His earthly heritage,  
How satisfy the needs and aspirations  
Of East and West, of sinner and of sage.  
But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory,  
And He shall reap the harvest He has sown,  
And some glad day His sun will shine in splendour,  
When He the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

## Our First Reading

James 3:1-12 (New International Version)

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. <sup>2</sup> We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

<sup>3</sup> When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. <sup>4</sup> Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. <sup>5</sup> Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. <sup>6</sup> The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

<sup>7</sup> All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup> but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

<sup>9</sup> With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. <sup>10</sup> Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. <sup>11</sup> Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? <sup>12</sup> My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

## 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]

In this time of silent prayer let us pray for Pastor Simon Whitley of Rugby Elim. He has been very ill with the effects of cancer for several months. Pray again for a breakthrough to occur and for God to be glorified in Simon and Lisa, his wife.

Theresa May became our Prime Minister on 13th July 2016. She resigned as Conservative Party Leader on 7th June. As either Boris or Jeremy becomes our new Prime Minister this week, pray that God will bless Theresa and Philip (her husband) and that their life will change as He whispers to them in this new chapter of work, home and relationships.

May our hearts be open to what God is saying to us and may we have the courage to do exactly what He says.

## 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.**

Barbara Pitt's Story