

Wallington and St Andrew's URCs
Sunday 14 March 2021

Revd Craig Bowman

Call to worship

♪ God is love, his the care,
Tending each, everywhere.
God is love - all is there!
Jesus came to show him,
That we all might know him.
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise him!

None can see God above;
Humankind, we can love;
Thus may we Godward move,
Finding God in others.
Sisters all and brothers.
Sing aloud ...

Jesus shared all our pain
Strove and died, rose again,
Rules our heart now as then,
For he came to save us
By the truth he gave us.
Sing aloud ...

To our Lord praise we sing:
Light and life, friend and King,
Coming down love to bring,
Pattern for our duty,
Showing God in beauty.
Sing aloud ...

Words: Percy Dearmer, music: Piaie Cantiones.
Performance: St Richard's Church choir, Chichester.

Prayers and Lord's prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

For all the family – Mothering Sunday

♪ Think of a world without any flowers,
Think of a wood without any trees,
Think of a sky without any sunshine,
Think of the air without any breeze:
We thank you Lord, for flowers and trees
and sunshine;
We thank you Lord, and praise your
holy name.

Think of a world without any people,
Think of a street with no-one living there,
Think of a town without any houses,
No-one to love and nobody to care:
We thank you Lord, for families
and friendships,
We thank you Lord, and praise your
holy name.

Think of a world without any worship,
Think of a God without his only Son,
Think of a cross without a resurrection,
Only a grave and not a victory won:
We thank you Lord, for showing us
our Saviour,
We thank you Lord, and praise your
holy name.

Thanks to our Lord for being here among us,
Thanks be to you for sharing all we do,
Thanks for our church and all the love we
find here,
Thanks for this place and all its promise true:
We thank you Lord for life in all its richness,
We thank you Lord and praise your
holy name.

Words: Doreen Newport and children from Emmanuel Junior Church, Cambridge; music: Graham Westcott.
Performance: St Aidan's Church, Leeds, BBC Songs of Praise.

Numbers 21:4-9 – The bronze snake
John 3:14-21 – For God so loved the world

Sermon

♪ There's a wideness in God's mercy
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in his justice
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in Heaven.
There is no place where Earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow
By false limits of our own;
And we magnify his strictness
With a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption
In the blood that has been shed.
There is joy for all the members
In the sorrows of the head.
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple
We should take him at his word;
And our lives would be all gladness
In the joy of Christ our Lord.

*Words: Frederick Faber, music: Maurice Bevan.
Performance: St Mark's Church, Maida Vale, BBC
Songs of Praise.*

Prayers of intercession

♪ God is Love: let heaven adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before him,
And exalt him with one voice.
God, who laid the earth's foundation,
God, who spread the heavens above,
God, who breathes through all creation,
God is love, eternal love.

God is love: and love enfolds us,
All the world in one embrace;
With unfailing grasp God holds us,
Every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking
Under sorrow's iron rod,
Then we find that self-same aching
Deep within the heart of God.

God is love: and though with blindness
Sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal loving kindness
Guides us through our earthly strife.
Sin and death and hell shall never
O'er us final triumph gain;
God is love, so love for ever
O'er the universe must reign.

*Words: Timothy Rees, music: Cyril Taylor © Oxford
University Press. Performance: singers from St John's
Episcopal Church, Boulder, Colorado.*

Blessing

*Closing music: God so loved the world from The
Crucifixion by John Stainer. Performance: Guildford
Camerata directed by Barry Rose. © and © 2003
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*The family talk is by Katharyne Crosse, the Bible
passages are read by Chris Jackson and Betty Ntow-
Aninkora and our prayers of intercession are led by
Alan Cruchley.*