**Hymns for Worship: Sunday 17th May**

*Introductory music*

*Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. Come, bow before him now, with reverence and fear. In him no sin is found, we stand on holy ground. Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One, is here. (David J Evans, b.1957)*

**Father, I place into your hands**

Father, I place into your hands
the things I cannot do.
Father, I place into your hands
the times that I've been through.
Father, I place into your hands
the way that I should go,
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, I place into your hands
my friends and family.
Father, I place into your hands
the things that trouble me.
Father, I place into your hands
the person I would be,
for I know I always can trust you.

Father, we love to seek your face,
we love to hear your voice.
Father, we love to sing your praise
and in your name rejoice.
Father, we love to walk with you
and in your presence rest,
for we know we always can trust you.

Father, I want to be with you
and do the things you do.
Father, I want to speak the words
that you are speaking too.
Father, I want to love the ones
that you will draw to you,
for I know that I am one with you.

*(Jenny Hewer, b. 1945)*

*Music after the Psalm*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place. (Marty Haugen, b. 1950)*

**Jesus lives! thy terrors now**

Jesus lives! thy terrors now
can no more, O death, appal us;
Jesus lives! by this we know
thou, O grave, canst not enthral us.
Alleluia.

Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate to life immortal:
this shall calm our trembling breath,
when we pass its gloomy portal.
Alleluia

Jesus lives! for us he died;

then, alone to Jesus living,

pure in heart may we abide,

glory to our Saviour giving.

Alleluia.

Jesus lives! our hearts know well
naught from us his love shall sever;
life nor death nor pow'rs of hell
tear us from his keeping ever.
Alleluia.

Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given:
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven.
Alleluia.

*(Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715 – 1769*

*Trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1812 – 1897, alt)*

**Be thou my vision**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day or the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Riches I need not, nor all the world’s praise
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
O King of glory, my treasure thou art.

O King of glory, my victory won;
rule and reign in me ’til thy will be done;
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*(Irish, 8th Century This version: Audrey Assad)*

*Concluding music*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! hearts to heaven and voices raise; sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise: he who on the Cross a Victim for the world’s salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high; alleluia to the Saviour, who has gained the victory; alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity; alleluia! alleluia! to the triune majesty. (Christopher Wordsworth, 1807 – 1885)*

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**Readings**

**Genesis 8:20 – 9:17**

God’s Promise to Noah

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, and took of every clean animal and of every clean bird, and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when the Lord smelled the pleasing odour, the Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of humankind, for the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living creature as I have done.

As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.

God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth, and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground, and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered.  Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you; and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything.  Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.  For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life.

Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person’s blood be shed;
for in his own image God made humankind.

And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and multiply in it.”

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”  God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth.  When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.  When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.”  God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth. *(NRSV)*

**Psalm 31: 1 – 5, 15 – 16**

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me, for your are my rock and my stronghold; guide me, and lead me for your name’s sake.

Take me out of the net they have laid secretly for me, for you are my strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

‘My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and save me for your mercy’s sake.’

**John 14: 15 - 21**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“If you love me, you will keepmy commandments.  And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be inyou.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.  On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” *(NRSV)*

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